

REPORT
ON THE
HEALTH
OF THE
BOROUGH OF WALSALL,
DURING THE YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31st, 1914,

BY

HARRY SHORE, M.D., B.S.,

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Medical Officer of Health for the Borough.

School Medical Officer and Police Surgeon.

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HEALTH COMMITTEE

OF THE

WALSALL CORPORATION.

ALDERMAN WALKER, Chairman.

ALDERMAN CLARE, Vice-Chairman.

ALDERMAN WILLIAMS

COUNCILLOR SHELLEY

COUNCILLOR LYNCH

„ SLATER

„ O'MEARA

„ THOMAS

„ OSWIN

„ WARNER

Meet on the Third Monday in each Month, at 3-30 p.m.

Medical Officer of Health.

HARRY SHORE, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

Tuberculosis Officer.

JAMES A. M. CLARK, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Analyst.

E. W. T. JONES, F.I.C.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

ARTHUR THOMAS HUBBLE,

Cert. as Inspector of Nuisances and as Meat Inspector.

Assistant Inspectors.

ERNEST F. B. A. MINER (No. 1 District) Cert. I.N.
and as Meat Inspector.

EDWIN NEWBOULD (No. 2 District) Cert. I.N.,
and as Meat Inspector.

FRED TURNER (No. 3 District) Cert. I.N.

Health Visitor.

MISS W. M. SADLER, Cert. H.V., and Cert. C.M.B.

Chief Clerk.

W. BENTLEY.

Junior Clerks.

F. BIRD. N. BROOKIN.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR 1914.

<i>Area in Acres</i>	...	...	...	7358
<i>Estimated Population, June 1914</i>			...	94093
<i>Population per Acre</i>	...	...	.	12·78
<i>Number of Houses in Borough</i>	...		...	20008
<i>Number of Persons per House</i>	...		...	4·27
<i>Rateable Value</i>	...	...	...	£291,290
<i>Id. in the £ yields for General Purposes</i>			...	£1,063
<i>Number of Marriages in Walsall Registra- tion District</i>	.	...	...	1130
<i>Birth Rate</i>	...	...	...	29·42
<i>Death Rate</i>	...	...	...	15·01
<i>Infantile Death Rate per 1000 Births</i>			...	115·92
<i>Zymotic Death Rate</i>	...	...	...	1·48
<i>Respiratory Death Rate</i>		...	...	2·56
<i>Total Deaths from Diarrhæa</i>	..		...	89
<i>Infantile Mortality from Diarrhæa per 1000 Births</i>				22·01
<i>Death Rate from Phthisis</i>	..		...	1·22
<i>Death Rate from other forms of Tuberculosis</i>				0·27
<i>Percentage of Uncertified Deaths</i>			...	0·00
<i>Rainfall</i>	...	...	...	24·47

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALSALL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
County Borough of Walsall.*

MR. MAYOR, MISS NEWMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting to you my Annual Report on the Health, Vital Statistics, and Sanitary condition generally, of the Borough for the year 1914.

The number of deaths recorded as belonging to the Borough is 1413. This is a decrease of 191 when compared with 1913, the corrected death rate being 15'01 as compared with 17'15 in 1913.

Infantile Mortality as calculated per 1,000 births shows a considerable decrease, the rate being 115'92 as compared with 156'75 in 1913.

The number of marriages recorded in the Walsall Registration District has decreased to 1130 from 1147 last year.

The School Medical Report will be found as usual appended to this Report, commencing on page 47, and states in detail the Statistics of Inspection.

Particulars of the work of the Female Health Visitor will be found on pages 20 to 23, and I am pleased to again record the cordial relations which exist between the Health Visitor and the homes she visits.

I again tender my thanks for the courtesy and consideration shown me by the Members of the Council and the hearty support of the Chief Inspector and the whole of the Staff of the Department throughout the year.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

HARRY SHORE,

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

The population estimated by the Registrar General to the middle of the year amounts to 94,093.

Table giving the population at the last three census :

1891	1901	1911
71,791	86,440	92,130

MARRIAGES.

There is a decrease in the number of Marriages this year, 1130 taking place, whilst last year 1147 were contracted.

BIRTHS.

The number of Births registered in the Borough for the year was 2771, of which 1,405 were males and 1,366 were females. This gives a rate of 29'42; last year we had 2,800 births, with a rate of 29'80.

Eighty-nine of these births were illegitimate.

The average birth rate for the last five years is 29'16

The following table gives the number of births registered in the Borough :—

		Male	Female	Total
1st quarter	...	337	334	671
2nd „	...	343	312	655
3rd „	...	377	365	742
4th „	...	348	355	703
Totals	...	1405	1366	2771

DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered during the year was 1,383, giving a rate per thousand of the population of 14·69, a decrease on the previous year, when we had 1,592 deaths with a rate of 17·03. If we exclude the number of deaths of persons dying in the Borough belonging to other districts, and include those belonging to the Borough dying beyond the Borough, we have a corrected number of 1,413 giving a death rate of 15·01. The average death rate for the past five years is 15·34.

Mortality from all causes, at subjoined ages of residents belonging to the Borough.

At all Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards
1413	321	84	57	57	51	179	327	337

Number of deaths in each of the eight Wards, together with their population and death rate.

Name of Ward.	Population	Total No. of Deaths	Rate. per 1000 per annum.
Bloxwich	8572	136	15·86
Leamore	11523	167	14·49
Birchills	14211	250	17·59
Hatherton	9354	184	19·67
Paddock	10645	126	11·83
Bridge	8386	135	15·82
Pleck	14549	196	13·47
Caldmore	16809	204	12·13

This table does not include the deaths of non-residents occurring in the Workhouse or in the Walsall and District Hospital. Residents of the Borough, dying in any of these Institutions, are included, and are each put into the ward in which they resided.

Fifteen persons whose deaths are registered in the Workhouse, but of whom no address excepting Walsall could be got, are entered into the tables for the whole district, but could not be classified into Wards. By referring to the table in which the separate death rate for each Ward is given, it will be seen in what particular part of the Borough the highest and lowest death rate occurred.

Hatherton Ward has this year the highest, viz. : 19·67, while Paddock Ward with a rate of 11·83 has the lowest death-rate in the Borough.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The Infantile Mortality is calculated by the ratio of deaths under one year to 1,000 births registered, this year the rate is 115·92; last year the rate was 156·75; in 1912, 131·64; and in 1911, 152·08, these figures and those in the next paragraph will be found in Table I.

The number of deaths recorded was 321, giving us a death-rate per 1,000 of the whole population of 3·41. Last year the rate was 4·69; in 1912 it was 3·86 and in 1911, 4·59

Commenting upon the causes of death, it will be seen that Premature Birth accounted for 87 deaths; Atrophy and Debility, 49; Pneumonia, 20; Bronchitis, 22; Convulsions, 22; Whooping Cough, 10; Diarrhœa, 17; Enteritis, 44.

The rate amongst illegitimate children is 224·71.

The figures during 1914 are as follows : —

	Number of Births	Number of Deaths	Death Rate per 1000 Births.
Legitimate ...	2682	301	112·23
Illegitimate	89	20	224·71

Table showing the diseases prevalent amongst infants under one year, and the number of deaths attributed to those diseases during the past ten years.

	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914
Diarrhœa	64	78	52	81	57	29	83	13	36	17
Convulsions	76	33	26	30	34	34	20	24	31	22
Premature Births	49	55	83	55	51	74	70	66	71	87
Pneumonia	21	37	34	26	35	26	33	41	34	20
Marasmus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Debility	41	59	53	36	54	40	54	53	49	49
Enteritis	20	35	18	15	14	22	30	14	69	44
Bronchitis	18	32	36	36	32	14	25	34	23	22
Meningitis	3	6	14	8	6	5	6	9	3	3
Whooping Cough	—	15	20	20	6	3	17	33	7	10
Phthisis	3	—	9	3	3	2	4	5	—	—
Measles	2	—	13	—	5	1	—	1	19	—
Tubercular Meningitis	5	2	4	5	6	—	4	3	3	1
Tubercular Peritonitis	5	5	1	2	3	3	4	—	—	1

TABLE IV.

Walsall County Borough.—WHOLE DISTRICT.

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1914.

Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks.	1 & un. 3 mths.	3 & un. 6 mths.	6 & un. 9 mths.	9 & un. 12 mths.	Total deaths under One Year.
ALL CAUSES—Certified	97	18	11	14	140	55	54	38	33	320
Uncertified	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	2	2	10
Diphtheria and Croup .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Convulsions ...	4	2	1	2	9	4	3	4	2	22
Laryngitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis ...	...	...	2	...	2	4	5	7	4	22
Pneumonia (all forms)...	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	4	9	20
Diarrhœa ...	...	...	...	1	1	3	5	6	2	17
Enteritis ...	...	...	...	2	2	8	21	7	6	44
Gastritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2
Rickets ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Suffocation, overlying...	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3
Injury at Birth ...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Atelectasis ...	2	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	3
Congenital Malformations ...	6	2	...	...	8	3	...	1	...	12
Premature Birth ...	62	11	5	4	82	5	...	...	...	87
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus ...	12	2	3	1	18	14	11	4	2	49
Other causes ...	7	1	...	3	11	4	3	2	2	22
Totals ...	98	18	11	14	141	55	54	38	33	321

Nett Births in the year—legitimate, 2,680 ; illegitimate, 89.

Nett Deaths in the year of legitimate infants, 301 ; illegitimate infants, 20.

TABLE IV.

Bloxwich Ward.

INFANT MORTALITY.

1914. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages
 under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.				Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 & un. 3 mths	3 & un. 6 mths	6 & un. 9 mths	9 & un. 12 mths	Total Deaths under 1 year	
All Causes	}	Certified	...	6	3	3	2	14	3	7	5	3	32	
		Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough				..	.	...	.	...	1	..	1	..	2
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)				..	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Convulsions				...	...	1	...	1	...	1	.	...	2
Bronchitis				..	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	..	4
Pneumonia (all forms)				..	..	...	...	..	..	2	..	1	3
{ Diarrhœa				...	...	...	...	...	...	1	..	..	1
{ Enteritis				...	...	...	...	...	1	3	..	..	4
Rickets				...	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	1	1
Injury at Birth				..	...	...	...	1	...	...	..	..	1
{ Premature Birth				...	..	5	1	1	2	9	..	...	9
{ Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus				...	..	1	1	...	2	..	..	2	4
Totals				...	6	3	3	2	14	3	7	5	3	32

Nett Deaths in the year of $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{legitimate infants} \quad 31 \\ \text{illegitimate infants} \quad 1 \end{array} \right.$

TABLE IV.

Leamore Ward.

INFANT MORTALITY.

1914. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages
 under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.				Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 & un. 3 mths	3 & un. 6 mths	6 & un. 9 mths	9 & un. 12 mths	Total Deaths under 1 year	
All Causes	}	Certified	...	13	...	4	...	17	8	4	2	2	33	
		Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	3
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	1	...	5
{		Congenital Malformations	...	1	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	4
		Premature Birth	...	9	...	4	...	13	1	...	...	...	14
		Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus	...	3	...	...	...	3	1	1	...	...	5
Totals				...	13	...	4	...	17	8	4	2	2	33

Nett Deaths in the year of $\begin{cases} \text{legitimate infants} & 32 \\ \text{illegitimate infants} & 1 \end{cases}$

TABLE IV.

Birchills Ward.

INFANT MORTALITY.

1914. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages
under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 & un. 3 mths	3 & un. 6 mths	6 & un. 9 mths	9 & un. 12 mths	Total Deaths under 1 year
All Causes	{ Certified ...	18	2	1	5	26	15	16	8	9	74
	{ Uncertified ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	1	4
Convulsions	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	4
Bronchitis	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	1	2	...	5
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	4
{ Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	1	4
{ Enteritis	...	...	...	...	1	1	3	7	2	2	15
Injury at Birth	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Atelectasis	...	1	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	2
{ Congenital Malformations	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
{ Premature Birth	...	10	2	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	12
{ Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus	...	2	...	...	...	2	5	4	...	2	13
Other Causes	...	2	...	...	2	4	2	...	...	2	8
Totals		18	2	1	5	26	15	16	8	9	74

Nett Deaths in the year of { legitimate infants 69
illegitimate infants 5

TABLE IV.

Hatherton Ward.

INFANT MORTALITY.

1914. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages
under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 & un. 3 mths	3 & un. 6 mths	6 & un. 9 mths	9 & un. 12 mths	Total Deaths under 1 year
All Causes	{ Certified ... Uncertified ...	15	4	..	..	19	6	8	6	3	42
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Convulsions	...	1	..	..	..	1	1	...	..	1	3
Bronchitis	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	...	3
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	..	1
{ Diarrhoea	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	...	1	...	1
{ Enteritis	..	...	...	...	...	..	1	3	2	1	7
Syphilis	...	...	..	..	..	..	1	...	..	...	1
Suffocation, overlying	..	2	...	...	...	2	..	..	..	...	2
{ Congenital Malformations	...	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
{ Premature Birth	...	10	4	...	...	14	1	...	...	...	15
{ Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus	...	1	...	...	...	1	2	3	...	...	6
Totals		15	4	..	..	19	6	8	6	3	42

Nett Deaths in the year of { legitimate infants 38
illegitimate infants 4

TABLE IV.

Paddock Ward.

INFANT MORTALITY.

1914. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages
under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 & un. 3 mths	3 & un. 6 mths	6 & un. 9 mths	9 & un. 12 mths	Total Deaths under 1 year
All Causes	{ Certified ... Uncertified ...	11	3	..	1	15	2	...	4	3	24
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...	..	..	..	..	...	..	..	..	1	1
Convulsions	..	1	..	...	1	2	..	..	...	...	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Diarrhœa	...	...	..	..	..	...	..	..	2	..	2
Suffocation, overlying	...	1	...	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
{ Congenital Malformations	...	1	..	..	..	1	...	..	1	..	2
{ Premature Birth	...	4	2	...	..	6	..	..	..	..	6
{ Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus	...	4	1	...	..	5	2	..	1	..	8
Totals		11	3	...	1	15	2	...	4	3	24

Nett Deaths in the year of { legitimate infants 23
illegitimate infants 1

TABLE IV.
Caldmore Ward.
INFANT MORTALITY.

1914. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages
under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.				Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 & un. 3 mths	3 & un. 6 mths	6 & un. 9 Mths	9 & un. 12 mths	Total Deaths under 1 year
All Causes	{ Certified	...	...	14	3	..	1	18	11	8	4	5	46
	{ Uncertified	...	...	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2
Convulsions	..	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	3
Bronchitis	...	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	3
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	3	6
{ Diarrhœa	...	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
{ Enteritis	...	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	2	6
{ Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	1	2	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	3
{ Premature Birth	...	...	...	11	..	..	..	11	1	..	..	..	12
{ Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus	...	...	...	1	..	..	1	2	1	..	..	..	3
Other Causes	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	3	1	2	2	..	8
Totals				15	3	..	1	19	11	8	4	5	47

Nett Deaths in the year of { legitimate infants 45
illegitimate infants 2

Table of deaths of infants under one year, with the rate per thousand births during the last ten years.

Year	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1000 Births
1905	391	141.15
1906	440	155.72
1907	432	151.20
1908	427	147.80
1909	382	136.80
1910	313	114.77
1911	424	152.08
1912	359	131.64
1913	439	156.75
1914	321	115.92
Average for 10 years	392	140.38

HEALTH VISITOR'S REPORT.

Council House,
Walsall,

Jan. 30th, 1915.

To the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Sir,

During last year the total number of births notified were 2,724 of which 1,341 are males and 1,261 females. 2,602 were born alive, the number that have been visited are 1,857.

The birth visits were distributed as follows:—

Bloxwich.	Leamore.	Birchills.	Hatherton.	Paddock.	Bridge.	Pleck.	Caldmore.	Total.
185	208	485	271	225	161	409	287	2231

In 39 cases the child was found to have died shortly after birth, and of the remainder 177 have since died.

When first visited 1,558 were breast fed, 184 part, 82 were bottle fed, 33 were too weak to suck, 27 of which were being fed with a spoon.

Of the children who received a second visit, 110 were bottle fed, making a total of 409 known to have been artificially fed.

Of the children who were so far as is known breast fed 149 have since died and of the bottle fed 28 have died.

I might say breast feeding is general in the first weeks of infancy, later it is supplemented where necessary by the bottle, all are more than anxious to feed their infants naturally and readily adopt any suggestions made that will help to increase either the quantity or quality of the milk; only one mother has refused to feed her infant naturally, no satisfactory reason being given.

The weighing of babies each month is appreciated by the mothers, during the summer months it was necessary to weigh a certain number each week, where it was convenient, they were brought to the Health Department.

MIDWIVES ACT 1902.

During the year 45 Midwives notified intention to practice, of these 7 were trained, the remaining 38 having gained admittance to the role by reason of having been in practice for the year previous to the passing of the Act.

Forty-one cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum notified and visited, and 5 cases of Puerperal Fever.

Eighteen of the Ophthalmia cases occurred in the practice of certified midwives, "Medical Help" having been advised in all but 3 cases, one case resulted in the loss of the sight of one eye, that being an infant in Pleck

Ward, it had very prompt treatment and was sent also to Birmingham Eye Hospital for indoor treatment, when but a few days old, 22 of the other cases were slight and cleared up quickly.

Three of the cases of Puerperal Fever were attended by Midwives, in one case no symptoms of fever appeared until she had ceased visiting and the patient been up a few days.

Seventy per cent. of the total births were attended by midwives only, as against 82 per cent. in 1913, the decrease being due to many of the midwives feeling unequal to the usual amount of work, the cause being failing health, or advancing age.

The work of the midwives is in general satisfactory, it will be noticed that the number of stillbirths notified are 2 in excess of 1913, and the notifications of the death of child being the same as in that year.

HEALTH VISITOR'S RECORD OF VISITS.

Birth Visits	Mid-wives	In-quests	Women's Work-shops.	Public Lava-tories	Other Visits	Visits re death of infant	Total Visits
2828	156	9	—	6	10	10	3010

BIRTH ENQUIRY.

First Visits	Re-Visits	Wasted Visits.	Stillbirth Inquiry.	Un-noti-fied birth Inquiry.	Infants brought to be weighed.
1857	971	102	34	23	299

MIDWIVES VISITS, &c.

Midwives Visits.	Inspec- tions.	Inter- viewed.	Disin- fected.	Sanitary Defects Reported.
156	73	154	3	41

MIDWIVES NOTIFICATIONS.

Medical Help.	Still- births.	Death of Child.	Death of Mother.	Laying out Body.
201	50	10	—	—

WINIFREDE SADLER.

MILK SUPPLY.

The Borough is favourably situated for obtaining its milk supply from the immediate vicinity.

The samples taken under the Food and Drugs Acts, showed an average amount of fat equalling 3.53 per cent.

There are 41 Cow-keepers having 498 milking cows, the premises being frequently inspected, and the regulations are complied with. There are 240 milk-sellers, the majority of whom obtain their milk supply from farmers outside the Borough.

There have been 78 samples of milk taken for analysis, 67 being certified by the Public Analyst as genuine and 11 as adulterated.

The premises of dairymen, cowkeepers, and milk-sellers are inspected prior to registration, and if found not to conform with the Local Regulations, the person applying is advised as to what alterations are necessary. The work is done before the registration is sanctioned.

Arrangements are now in force with the Birmingham University for the Bacteriological Examination of milk.

FOOD.

The food supply which comes into Walsall is increasing in quality, and, having regard to the type of the bulk of the population, is satisfactory.

There are Retail Markets (open air) held here on Tuesdays and Saturdays, which not only cater for the local people but for customers from a wide surrounding area. The chief food stuffs are fruit, vegetables, fish and meat. The Markets are regularly visited by myself and the Inspectors; one Inspector being on duty the whole of the evening till closing time.

Retail shops are inspected during the course of routine duties.

MEAT INSPECTION.

The Chief Inspector and the Inspectors for Nos. 1 and 2 Districts possess the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspectors of Meat and other Foods, and close attention is paid to the question of inspection, but it must be obvious that however strenuous the efforts put forth may be, it is impossible to attain complete satisfactory results until all meat comes through one channel—a Public Abattoir, via the meat purveyor to the consumer.

ACTION UNDER SECTION 117 OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.

In 5 cases, viz.: 2 Pig Carcases, tuberculous, 1 pair Chawls, 1 Rabbit and 2 bags of Pickling Cabbages, seizures were made, an Order from a Justice being obtained in each case. In other instances, food stuffs

were voluntarily surrendered, although in the majority of cases, the diseased or unsound condition of the food material was discovered by the Inspectors during slaughterhouse visits. Particulars are given in the Inspector's Report, page 77.

ACTION UNDER THE SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

One hundred and ninety-two samples were obtained 75 of which were of milk, 45 of butter, 8 of cheese, 2 of cream, 6 of preserved cream, 1 of margarine, 9 of lard, 11 of coffee, 2 of whiskey, and the remainder were of 30 various articles. With the exception of 11 samples of milk, 2 of cream, 2 of butter and 3 of camphorated oil, they were certified as genuine by the Public Analyst. A large number of these were informal samples, taken at such times as would favour the more ready sale of adulterated articles. The Inspector's Report under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts will be found on pages 90 to 94.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK AND CREAM) REGULATIONS 1912.

The Borough Analyst, Mr. E. W. T. Jones, F. I. C. has furnished the necessary particulars for the following Report for the year ended December 31st, 1914.

I. Milk; and Cream not sold as Preserved Cream.

	A. Number of samples examined for the presence of a preservative,	B. Number in which a preservative was reported to be present.
Milk ...	83	0
Cream ...	2	2 Boric Acid 0.36 & 0.42

- B. Action taken under the Regulations for samples containing preservative. The two samples were from the same vendor who sent an explanation in writing which was considered by the Health Committee, after which the vendor was cautioned by letter by the Town Clerk.

2. CREAM SOLD AS PRESERVED CREAM.

- (a) Instances in which samples have been submitted for analysis to ascertain if the statements on the label as to preservatives were correct.

(1) Correct statements made	6
(2) Statements incorrect ...	—
	<hr/>
Total	<u>6</u>

- (b) Determinations made of Milk fat in cream sold as Preserved Cream.

(1) Above 35 per cent. ...	6
(2) Below 35 per cent. ...	—
	<hr/>
Total	<u>6</u>

The amount of milk fat in the Preserved Cream was viz. :—

50·33, 50·68, 50·32, 54·40, 51·06 and 50·10 per cent. respectively.

- (c) Instances where (apart from analysis) the requirements as to labelling or declaration of Preserved Cream in Article v. (1) and the proviso in Article v. (2) of the Regulations have not been observed.

NIL.

- (d) Particulars of each case in which the Regulations have not been complied with, and action taken.

ALREADY STATED ABOVE.

3 THICKENING SUBSTANCES.

	No. of samples examined for thickening substances	Samples in which thicken- ing substances were found
Cream ...	2	0
Preserved Cream	6	0

CONDITION OF SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are 40 Slaughterhouses in use in the Borough, 17 registered and 23 licensed, 22 are licensed for a period of one year only, and come up at the expiration of that time for the Committee's decision as to renewal.

The Slaughter-houses which have been licensed during the past 10 years are erected in a manner set out in a specification which was approved as satisfactory for the construction of private Slaughter-houses.

In the oldest Buildings used in this Borough as Slaughter-houses, special attention is paid to the structural state of the floors and walls, so as to secure their being impervious, means of ventilation are provided, and in only a few cases now are there Slaughter-houses which may be considered unsatisfactory, although the whole question of slaughtering is one which will need consideration in the future.

It is practically impossible to ensure efficient inspection of meat under present conditions; it is perhaps only fair to the occupiers of Slaughter-houses to here state that we have an excellent supply of English meat killed in the town. In several of the poorer quarters, the supply may be described as of fair quality, but, in the majority of cases, it can be classed as very good.

WATER SUPPLY.

Walsall is well supplied with a system of constant pressure of water by the South Staffordshire Water Works Company. The water is taken mainly from the Cannock Chase district by means of deep wells sunk through gravel, sand, and red sand stone and thence pumped into reservoirs, from which it is distributed through cast iron pipes to the various parts of the town. It is pure, wholesome and of exceedingly good quality. Its action on lead pipes is nil. Samples are taken frequently and the Public Analyst invariably reports them to be good wholesome drinking water.

ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

A large amount of work has been carried out for abatement of nuisances, and the improvement of dwellings. Details of alterations and additional structural conveniences are given in Table 2, and the tables dealing with Housing, &c. see Inspector's Reports pages 69 to 73.

POLLUTION OF STREAMS.

One might say this is almost non-existent within the Borough. Works which previously discharged their drainage into the local stream are now connected to and utilising the adjacent sewers.

EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.

The Number of privies in proportion to water-closets is further decreasing, necessitating little removal of excrement. This work is carried out under the supervision of the Borough Surveyor, and is in the main disposed of to farmers outside the Borough.

HOUSE REFUSE DISPOSAL.

This work is carried out by the Borough Surveyor's Department, the refuse being carted to the various tips available.

The abolition of ashpits is gradually proceeding, and so far as we are able ashbins substituted. During the year 681 such conversions have been effected. Ashbin refuse is removed weekly, during the daytime. .

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

These houses are under the supervision of the Police who, in the first instance, consider the suitability of the premises in question for the purpose intended. I then, at the request of the Chief Constable, inspect and report upon the same. If suitable, and on completion to my requirements, the premises are registered.

Within the Borough there are 16 Common Lodging-houses containing 120 rooms registered as sleeping apartments, and accomodating 480 persons.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

There were 12 houses on the Register at the end of the year, all accomodating persons of the poorer class. Special Bye-laws are in existence in respect to the same and visits are periodically made to see that these are complied with.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1912, 278 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis have been notified, 8 between 1 and 5 years of age, 35 between 5 and 15, 65 between 15 and 25, 115 between 25 and 45, 52 between 45 and 65, and 31 over 65 years of age.

One hundred and fifteen deaths were registered this year from this disease, being a decrease of 6 on the total recorded last year.

In addition to this number, 25 deaths occurred from other Tuberculous diseases, making a total of 140 deaths from all Tuberculous diseases, a decrease of 2 compared with the previous year. This gives us a death-rate from Phthisis of 1·22 per thousand of the population, against a rate of 1·29 in 1913, and from the other forms of Tubercular diseases, a rate of 0·27 per thousand against 0·33 in the preceding year.

Number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified in each locality with deaths taking place.

		Bloxwich.	Leamore.	Birchills.	Hatherton.	Paddock.	Bridge.	Pleck,	Caldmore.	Walsall Workhouse.	Totals
Cases notified	...	22	32	45	28	31	34	45	30	11	278
Deaths	...	7	24	16	8	15	13	17	14	1	115

In July, 1914, Dr. Clark was appointed Tuberculosis Officer to serve this Borough and the Borough of West Bromwich.

He took up his duties in September but up to the end of the year suitable premises have not been obtained for the erection of a Dispensary in Walsall.

The scheme for the provision of a Sanatorium is still under consideration.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

This rate is estimated on the number of deaths per thousand of the population due to the seven common epidemic diseases, viz.:—Small-pox, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, Measles, Whooping Cough, and Diarrhœa.

The Death-rate from these diseases is 1·48, as compared with 3·09 for the previous year; in 1912, it was 1·49

The number of these cases are as follows:—

	Notified	Died	Case fatality per cent
Small-pox ...	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	97	2	2·06
Diphtheria ...	58	11	18·96
Typhoid Fever ...	7	1	14·28
Measles ...	—	9	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	28	—
Diarrhœa ...	—	89	—

Table of Deaths from Zymotic Diseases in the various Wards:—

Cause of Death	Bloxwich.	Leamore	Birchills	Hatherton	Paddock	Bridge	Pleck	Caldmore	Walsall Workhouse	Totals for the Borough
Measles ...	—	—	4	3	1	—	1	—	—	9
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup }	—	—	4	3	—	—	4	—	—	11
Enteric Fever ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diarrhœa ...	9	8	26	11	5	6	16	8	—	89
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	4	6	7	1	4	1	—	5	—	28
Totals ...	13	15	42	18	10	8	21	13	—	140

Zymotic Death Rate per thousand per annum for the last ten years :—

Cause of Death	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	·03	—	·73	—	·43	·09	·21	·17	1·18	·09
Scarlet Fever ...	·01	·02	·13	·11	·12	·12	·03	—	—	·02
Whooping Cough ...	—	·30	·42	·53	·23	·04	·43	·81	·18	·29
Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup }	·13	·15	·04	·08	·07	·06	·13	·04	·14	·11
Enteric Fever ...	·04	·12	·13	·08	·05	·03	·05	—	·02	·01
Diarrhœa ...	1·09	1·13	1·01	1·20	·69	·46	2·05	·46	1·55	·94
Totals ...	1·30	1·72	2·46	2·00	1·59	·80	2·90	1·48	3·09	1·46

From the table on preceding page it will be seen there are 2 deaths from Scarlet Fever, 1 death from Typhoid Fever, the number of Deaths from Diarrhœa is 89, Measles was responsible for 9 deaths, the deaths from Whooping Cough increased to 28 from 17 in 1913.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The number of cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year was 657, as compared with 716 in the previous year ; there were 784 cases in 1912, 518 cases in 1911, and 726 in 1910.

NOTIFICATIONS.

The following table gives the number of Infectious cases notified during the last ten years :—

1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914
352	331	549	771	565	726	518	784	716	657

FEES PAID TO MEDICAL MEN.

The Fees paid to Medical Men during the year for Notification Certificates amount to £84 0 0, an average of 17/10 per thousand of the population. Included in these figures are the fees for Notification of Phthisis.

Table of fees paid to Medical Men during the last ten years.

Year.	Amount Paid	Amount per 1000 of the population.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1905	45 15 0	0 9 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
1906	39 19 0	0 8 6
1907	62 11 0	0 13 1
1908	87 10 0	0 17 10
1909	66 1 0	0 13 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
1910	85 14 0	0 16 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
1911	54 13 0	0 11 10 $\frac{1}{8}$
1912	92 15 3	0 19 11 $\frac{3}{4}$
1913	89 13 3	0 19 2
1914	84 0 0	0 17 10

SMALL POX.

No cases of this disease were notified during the year.

SCARLET FEVER.

Ninety-seven cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year, a decrease on the number reported in 1913, when we had 157 cases, and in 1912, 167 cases.

Twenty-one were of children between the ages of 1 and 5, 66 between the ages of 5 and 15, 8 between the ages of 15 and 25, and 2 between the ages of 25 and 45.

As will be seen from the table, Bloxwich Ward with 20 has the highest number of cases notified, followed closely by Caldmore Ward, 17, Birchills 13, Leamore and Bridge each have 12, Pleck 11, Paddock 8, and Hatherton has the lowest, only 4 cases. Caldmore Ward again shows a reduction, having decreased from 41 in 1911 to 32 in 1912, 25 in 1913 and 17 this year.

The disease was of a mild type, only 2 deaths being recorded.

Cases notified in each locality :—

	Bloxwich	Leamore	Birchills	Hatherton	Paddock	Bridge	Pleck	Caldmore	Walsall Workhouse	Walsall & Dis- trict Hospital	Totals
Cases notified	20	12	13	4	8	12	11	17	—	—	97

ENTERIC FEVER.

There were notified 7 cases of Enteric Fever, the same number as in 1913, in 1912 we had 24 cases and in 1911 there were 28 cases. 3 occurred between the ages of 5 and 15 and 4 between 25 and 45.

One death was recorded from this disease.

The fatality rate for 1914 was 14·28 per 100 cases, in 1913 it was 28·07, in 1912 there were no deaths.

Number of cases notified in each locality :—

	Bloxwich	Leamore	Birchills	Hatherton	Paddock	Bridge	Pleck	Caldmore	Walsall Workhouse	Walsall & Dis- trict Hospital	Totals
Cases notified	—	2	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	7

DIPHThERIA.

Fifty-eight cases of Diphtheria and Membranous Croup were notified during the year, 11 between the ages of 1 and 5 years, 36 between 5 and 15, 7 between 15 and 25, 4 between 25 and 45 years.

Eleven deaths took place, 2 between the ages of 1 and 2, 3 between 2 and 5, and 6 between 5 and 15 years, giving a percentage of deaths to cases of 18·96, a great decrease on the percentage of last year, which was 33·33

Number of cases notified in each locality with deaths taking place:—

	Bloxwich	Leamore	Birchills	Hatherton	Paddock	Bridge	Pleck	Caldmore	Walsall Workhouse	Totals
Cases notified ...	1	5	19	10	3	1	8	9	—	56
Deaths ...	—	—	4	3	—	—	4	—	—	11

ERYSIPELAS.

There were notified 94 cases of Erysipelas, an increase as compared with the preceding year, when we had 75 cases, 2 cases were under 1 year of age, 2 between the ages of 1 and 5, 4 between 5 and 15, 17 between 15 and 25, 18 between 25 and 45, 42 between 45 and 65, and 9 over 65 years of age.

One death has been recorded from this disease in the past year.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

Five cases of Puerperal Fever have been notified, 2 between the ages of 15 and 25, and 3 between 25 and 45 years.

TABLE II. WALSALL COUNTY BOROUGH.

Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the Year 1914.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Cases Notified in whole District							Total Cases Notified in each Locality										Total cases removed to Hospital.	
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years.						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65												65 and upwards
Small-pox
Cholera (C) Plague (P)
Diphtheria(including Membranous Croup)	58	11	36	7	4	...	...	1	5	19	10	3	1	8	9	...	2	8
Erysipelas	94	2	4	17	18	42	9	12	7	16	10	7	11	16	14	...	1	...	
Scarlet Fever	97	21	66	8	2	...	...	20	12	13	4	8	12	11	17	...	...	...
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	7	...	3	...	4	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	2	1	...	...	1
Relapsing Fever (R)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever (C)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	5	...	...	2	3	...	...	1	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	41	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	1	5	4	11	1	5	6	1	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	278	8	35	65	115	52	3	22	32	45	28	31	34	45	30	11	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis	73	18	22	21	5	3	1	9	10	14	5	4	6	9	15	1	...	...
Totals ...	657	62	168	120	151	97	13	72	70	116	62	64	67	96	94	13	3	9	

Isolation Hospitals :—Enteric Fever Hospital, Hospital St., Walsall ; Small-pox Hospital, Sneyd Lane, Bloxwich
Diphtheria cases requiring Tracheotomy are treated at Walsall and District Hospital, Walsall, a retaining fee of
£20 per quarter is paid to the Executive Committee.

One death took place, this occurring in Birchills Ward.

This is an increase as compared with last year, when 4 persons were notified, of whom 2 died.

MEASLES.

Nine deaths were recorded as due to Measles during the past year, 5 between 1 and 2 years, 4 between 2 and 5.

This is a great decrease as compared with 1913, when there were 111 deaths from this disease.

DIARRHŒA AND ENTERITIS.

There is this year a large decrease in the number of deaths from Diarrhœa and Enteritis, 89 deaths being recorded against 188 in 1913.

Sixty of the deaths were of infants under 1 year of age, 18 between the ages of 1 and 2, 4 between 2 and 5, 1 between 5 and 15, 3 between 45 and 65, and 3 over 65 years of age.

Deaths took place in each Ward, the highest number 26, occurring Birchills Ward, and the lowest number, 5, in Paddock Ward.

WHOOPING COUGH.

There is a slight increase this year in the number of deaths from Whooping Cough, 28 being recorded, as against 17 in the preceding year, and 76 in 1912. This gives a death-rate per 1,000 of '29 against a rate last year of '18. 11 of the deaths were of infants under 1 year, 11 between 1 and 2, 4 between 2 and 5, and 2 between 5 and 15 years.

CANCER.

There is an increase this year in the number of deaths recorded from Cancer, 86 taking place this year, as compared with 72 in 1913. This gives a death-rate of '91 per thousand of the population, against a rate last year of '77

One of the deaths occurred between the ages of 15 and 25, 10 between 25 and 45, 46 between 45 and 65, and 29 over 65 years.

The deaths were distributed throughout the Borough, the highest number being in Pleck with 16 deaths, Caldmore with 15 and Bloxwich Ward with 11 deaths.

ALCOHOLISM AND CIRRHOSIS OF LIVER.

There is a slight increase this year in the number of deaths from Alcoholism and Cirrhosis of Liver, 19 being recorded against 18 in 1913. This gives a rate of '20 per thousand of the population, the rate for the preceding year being '19. 1 of the deaths was of a person between the ages of 15 and 25 years, 6 between 25 and 45, 10 between 45 and 65, and 2 over 65 years. Deaths were recorded in each of the Wards.

CORONER'S INQUESTS.

One hundred and eighteen Inquests were held in the Borough during the year, 71 of which were of males, and 47 of females, 16 of these were of children under one year of age, 12 between the ages of 1 and 7, 7 between 7 and 16, 6 between 16 and 25, 45 between 25 and 60, and 32 over 60 years of age.

Fifty-six were found to have died from natural causes, 3 from Drowning, 2 Murder, 2 Manslaughter, 8 committed Suicide, and 46 from Accidents or Misadventure.

MIDWIVES' ACT.

The work in connection with this Act is carried out primarily by the Female Health Visitor, under my immediate supervision.

OVERCROWDING.

Sixty-eight cases in dwelling-houses have been dealt with, this number is no criterion as to what overcrowding exists, there may be in many cases undetected. The majority of the instances in which notices were served came to our knowledge by reason of complaints being made. It is not always that when enquiry is made as to the number of persons inhabiting a house that the correct number is given, otherwise, more cases would be found during house to house inspection.

BAKEHOUSES.

During the year 272 visits were paid by the Inspectors to the 70 bakehouses in the Borough; 18 of these bakehouses are registered as factories.

Generally speaking they are all in a fairly sanitary condition, a few of them being in a good condition.

ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

The Epidemic Hospital, Hospital Street has been opened for use during the year from August 25th till October 6th for one patient from Pleck Ward.

The Small-pox Hospital, Sneyd Lane, Bloxwich was not used during the year.

Under the arrangement with the Executive Committee of the Walsall & District Hospital, 8 patients notified as suffering from Diphtheria were admitted for Tracheotomy, in 3 cases an operation was unnecessary the children were discharged cured.

In 5 cases the operation of Tracheotomy was performed but in 2 instances the patient succumbed, the other 3 were discharged recovered.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES RETURN OF VISITS, &c.

Dr. H. SHORE,
Medical Officer of Health,
WALSALL.

Dear Sir,

In accordance with the provisions of the Sanitary Officers (outside London) Order 1910, I herewith furnish you with a tabular statement containing the following particulars for the year ended December 31st, 1914.

I. THE NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS MADE BY THE SANITARY INSPECTORS.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	Total.
Inspections of Dwelling-houses under Housing, &c. Act ...	324	328	358	1010
District Inspections ...	3014	2667	2594	8275
Inspections of Workshops (not in- cluding Bakehouses) ...	128	121	86	335
Inspections of Factories ...	24	11	3	38
„ Homes of Outworkers ...	47	100	68	215
„ Slaughter-houses ...	647	678	781	2106
„ Bakehouses ...	100	89	83	272
„ Fishyards ...	209	131	76	416
„ Dairies ...	260	238	221	719
„ Houses let in Lodgings ...	162	138	3	303
Samples of water ...	13	5	3	21
Samples under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts ...	75	71	51	197
	5003	4577	4327	13907
Canal Boat Inspections... ..	—	—	—	64
Visits to infected houses ...	182	241	214	637
Fumigations after notifiable disease	33	57	53	143
Fumigations after Phthisis & Cancer ...	22	37	30	89
Drain tests	44	48	14	106
Re-inspections of work for abate- ment of Nuisances ..	4220	4200	4476	12896
Total visits and Inspections ...	9504	9160	9114	27842

2. THE NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District	No. 3 District.	Total.
Informal	576	644	549	1769
Statutory	348	398	515	1261

3. RESULT OF SERVICE OF SUCH NOTICES.

	No. 1 District	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	Total.
Number of nuisances abated ...	956	1083	923	2962
Notices not complied with ...	165	175	198	538

Yours obediently,

ARTHUR T. HUBBLE,

February 4th, 1915.

Inspector of Nuisances.

ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, &c. ACT, 1909.

The following table gives particulars of the number of houses made fit for human habitation or otherwise closed and demolished as unfit for human habitation during the past three years, viz.:—

	1912	1913	1914	Total.
No. of houses made fit for human habitation after notice by Sanitary Authority	285	242	347	874
„ closed as “unfit” by orders	26	24	34	84
„ to be demolished, by orders	38	11	25	74
„ demolished prior to the making of orders ...	20	28	14	62
„ in an insanitary state closed voluntarily by owners	48	54	41	143

The actual inspections done under the provision of this Act are as set forth in the table below.

No. of houses found to be reasonably fit for		
human habitation ..	724	
„ having defects for which		
notices were issued (this		
includes a number of minor		
defects)	271	
„ referred to the Medical Officer		
of Health as unfit for		
human habitation .	15	
„ represented by the Medical		
Officer of Health as unfit		
for human habitation ...	34	
„ for which Closing Orders were		
made	39	
„ for which Closing Orders were		
determined	—	

The question of the erection of houses for the Working Classes which was alluded to in my last report has been under consideration by your Health Committee who inspected various sites. Plans and estimated costs, &c. were prepared by the Borough Surveyor, and a penultimate stage reached, whereby the erection of 125 houses would in the ordinary course of events have been approved by the Council, when the outbreak of the War relegated the scheme to consideration at some future date.

So far as my judgment went I have felt throughout the year that much discrimination was required in asking for Closing Orders under this Act, in so much as, the already existing shortage of houses would be increased and thereby make what was bad worse, in short I chose of two evils (courses) the lesser.

Rightly or otherwise in such a dilemma as this, one feels impelled to be guided by concrete facts and not by abstract or idealistic requirements.

Such work as can be done to render houses more sanitary, &c., has been undertaken under the provisions of the Public Health Act.

HOMEWORK.

There are in the Borough 28 occupiers of Factories or Workshops who give work out. Lists have been received from these employers giving the names of 116 persons to whom work is given, and in the course of the year the Sanitary Inspectors have made 215 visits to those houses.

No case of notifiable disease occurred at any of the homes of outworkers.

MAP.

The Map appended gives the area, population, number of persons per acre, death rate, number of deaths of infants under one year, number of deaths from Diarrhœa and the number of cases of Infectious Disease in each of the eight Wards.

MARKETS.

The Markets have been visited every week, the Inspectors taking this inspection in turn.

RAINFALL.

The rainfall for the year was 24·47 inches, against a rainfall last year of 27·29 inches.

WORKSHOPS.

The following is a list of the trades carried on in the workshops in the Borough:—

Description of Trade.	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	Total.
Awl Blade Makers	—	1	6	7
Basket Makers	3	1	1	5
Bakers	14	20	16	50
Bit, Stirrup and Spur Makers ...	7	9	17	33
Blacksmiths	3	4	7	14
Brass Dressers	2	1	1	4
Brush Makers	2	1	4	7
Boot and Shoe Makers	7	10	10	27
Cart Gear, Hames, Spring Bar and Curb Makers	4	11	2	17
Cabinet Makers and Upholsterers...	5	8	—	13
Chasers	2	4	1	7
Chain Makers	5	5	3	13
Curriers	4	6	2	12
Cycle Makers	1	3	3	7
Coach Builders and Wheelwrights	5	6	3	14
Dress Makers	24	28	10	62
Fancy Leather Goods and Purse Makers	20	18	2	40
File Cutters	3	—	3	6
Harness, Bridle and Horse Collar Makers	33	24	9	66
Harness Furniture and Spring Hook Makers	4	7	3	14
Joiners	9	11	4	24
Lock and Key Smiths	—	3	3	6
Milliners	13	8	3	24
Platers	13	12	—	25
Plumbers	2	2	—	4
Saddlers, Whip and Horse Clothing Makers	31	22	7	60
Saddle Tree Makers	4	2	—	6
Saddlers' Tool Makers	1	3	1	5
Tailors	16	27	8	51
Miscellaneous	45	42	14	101
Totals ...	282	299	143	724

TABLE V.
WALSALL COUNTY BOROUGH.

**RETURN of the Number of Cases of Infectious Disease
reported to the Medical Officer of Health during
the year 1914 and of Deaths from the Diseases notified.**

	Cases notified in 1914	Deaths registered in 1914
Small-pox ... ..	...	...
Cholera, Plague ... ..	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	58	11
Erysipelas	94	1
Scarlet Fever	97	2
Typhus Fever ... ..	...	...
Enteric Fever	7	1
Relapsing Fever or Continued Fever ...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	5	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	2	2
Poliomyelitis	2	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	278	115
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	73	25
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	41	...

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE
YEAR 1914 FOR THE

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALSALL.

On the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901,
in connection with

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES & HOMEWORK.

1—INSPECTION.

MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions
Factories ... (including Factory Laundries)	38	74	
Workshops (including Work- shop Laundries) ...	335		
Workplaces ... (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report) ...			
Total ...	373	74	...

2—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			No. of Prosecutions
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—†				
Want of Cleanliness ...	60	60	...	...
Want of Ventilation ...	5	5	...	...
Overcrowding ...	...	...	...	...
Want of drainage of floors ...	...	...	...	...
Other nuisances ...	13	13	...	...
Sanitary accommodation {insufficient ...	...	...	...	...
{unsuitable or defective ...	5	5	...	...
{not separate for sexes ...	...	...	...	...
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act:—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101) ...	...	...	...	...
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100) ...	...	...	...	...
Other offences ...	...	...	...	...
(Excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this report)				
Total ...	83	83	...	...

† Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8, of the Factory and Workshop Act as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

County Borough of Walsall.
1914.

Area, 7,358 acres. Estimated Population, 94,093.

Average No. of Persons per acre	12.78
Death Rate	15.01
No. of Deaths of Children under One Year	321
No. of Deaths from Diarrhoea	89
No. of Cases of Infectious Disease notified	306
No. of Cases of Tuberculosis notified	351

Divided into each of the Eight Wards of the Borough.



BLOXWICH WARD.

Area 1,534 acres.	Est. Pop. 8,572
No. of Persons per acre	5
Death Rate	15.86
No. of Deaths of Children under One Year	32
No. of Deaths from Diarrhoea	9
No. of Cases of Infectious Disease notified	41
No. of Cases of Tuberculosis notified	31

LEAMORE WARD.

Area 1,938 acres	Est. Pop. 11,523
No. of Persons per acre	5
Death Rate	14.49
No. of Deaths of Children under One Year	33
No. of Deaths from Diarrhoea	8
No. of Cases of Infectious Disease notified	28
No. of Cases of Tuberculosis notified	42

HATHERTON WARD.

Area 424 acres	Est. Pop. 9,354
No. of Persons per acre	22
Death Rate	19.67
No. of Deaths of Children under One Year	42
No. of Deaths from Diarrhoea	11
No. of Cases of Infectious Disease notified	29
No. of Cases of Tuberculosis notified	33

BIRCHILLS WARD.

Area 220 acres.	Est. Pop. 14,211
No. of Persons per acre	64
Death Rate	17.59
No. of Deaths of Children under one year	74
No. of Deaths from Diarrhoea	26
No. of Cases of Infectious Disease notified	57
No. of Cases of Tuberculosis notified	59

BRIDGE WARD.

Area, 193½ acres	Est. Pop. 8,386
No. of Persons per acre	43
Death Rate	15.82
No. of Deaths of Children under One Year	19
No. of Deaths from Diarrhoea	6
No. of Cases of Infectious Disease notified	27
No. of Cases of Tuberculosis notified	40

PLECK WARD.

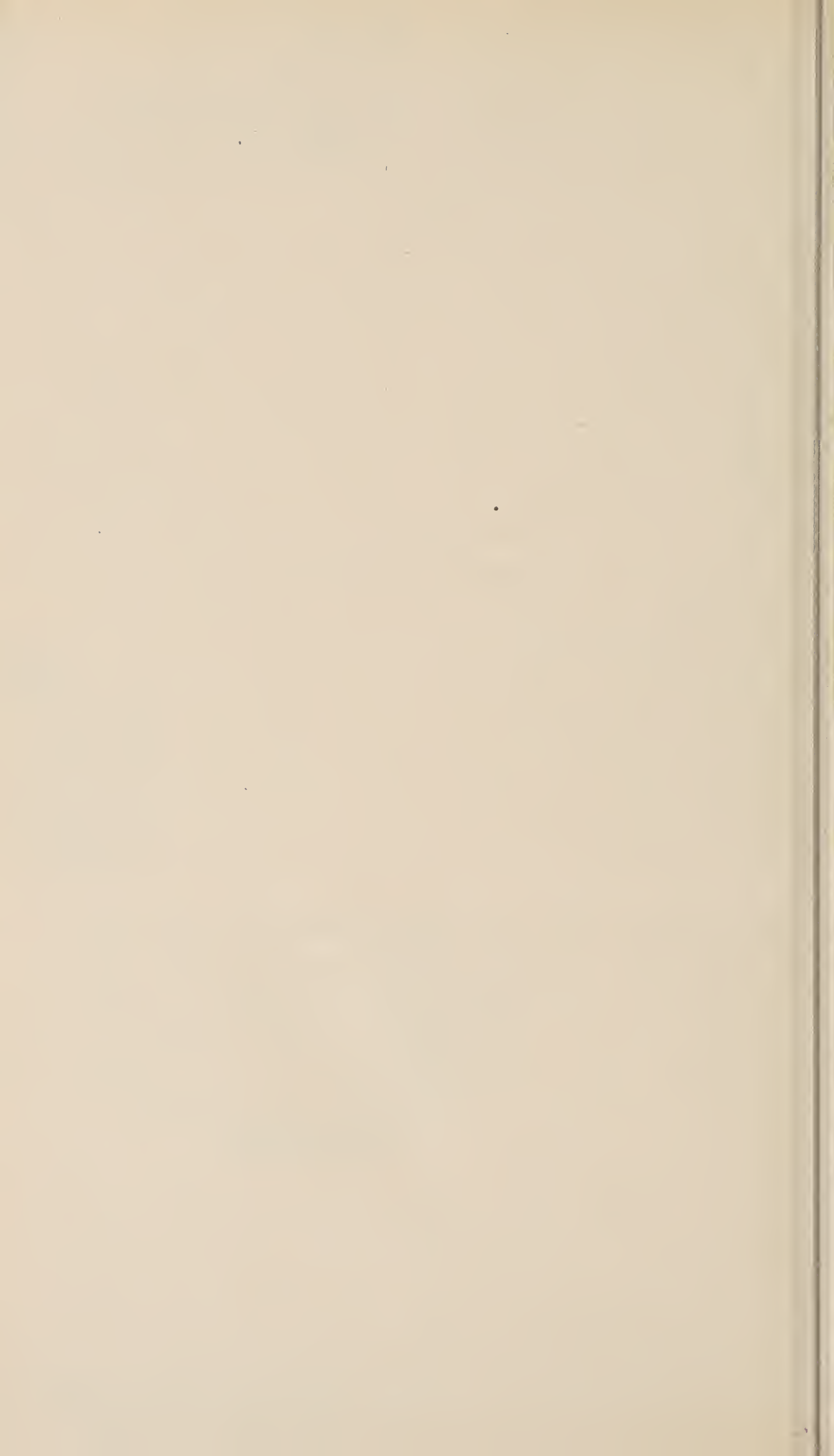
Area 826½ acres	Est. Pop. 14,549
No. of Persons per acre	17
Death Rate	13.47
No. of Deaths of Children under One Year	50
No. of Deaths from Diarrhoea	16
No. of Cases of Infectious Disease notified	42
No. of Cases of Tuberculosis notified	54

CALDMORE WARD.

Area 881 acres.	Est. Pop. 16,809
No. of Persons per acre	19
Death Rate	12.13
No. of Deaths of Children under One Year	47
No. of Deaths from Diarrhoea	8
No. of Cases of Infectious Disease notified	49
No. of Cases of Tuberculosis notified	45

PADDOCK WARD.

Area 1,351 acres	Est. Pop. 10,645
No. of Persons per acre	7
Death Rate	11.83
No. of Deaths of Children under One Year	24
No. of Deaths from Diarrhoea	5
No. of Cases of Infectious Disease notified	29
No. of Cases of Tuberculosis notified	35



3—HOME WORK.

NATURE OF WORK.	OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107.									Outwork in Un-wholesome premises Section 108			Outwork in Infected Premises, Sections 109, 110		
	Lists received from Employers.						Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending lists.	Prosecu- tions.		Instances.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.	Instances.	Orders made, S. 110	Prosecutions (Sections 109, 110).
	Sending Twice in the Year.			Sending Once in the Year.				Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists.	Failing to send lists.						
	Lists.	Outworkers.		Lists.	Outworkers.										
		Contractors.	Workmen.		Contractors.	Workmen.									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Wearing Apparel— Making, &c. ...	26	4	85	4	1	4	29	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	—
Cables and chains ...	6	—	16	—	—	—	8	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	—
Locks, latches and keys ...	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paper, &c., boxes, paper bags	2	—	6	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brush making ...	10	—	60	1	—	25	9	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	—
Total ...	44	4	167	6	1	31	48	—	—	12	12	—	—	—	—

4—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s 131) at the end of the year	Number
1	2
Important classes of work-shops, such as workshop-bakehouses may be enumerated here	
Bakehouses ...	50
Saddlery Trades ...	201
Clothing Trades ...	164
Fancy Leather Goods ...	40
Others ...	269
Total number of workshops on Register ...	724

5—OTHER MATTERS.

Class	Number
1	2
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133 1901) — — — —	
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5 1901) :—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector — — — —	9
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector — — — —	9
Other — — — —	
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—	
In use at the end of the year — — — —	

Table I.

WALSALL COUNTY BOROUGH.

Vital Statistics of whole district during 1914 and previous years.

YEAR	Popula- tion estimated to Middle of each Year	BIRTHS.				Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.					
		NETT.		Uncorrected Number.	Rate	Number	Rate	of Non- residents registered in the District.	of Resi- dents not registered in the District	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages			
										Number	Rate	Number	Rate		
		Number	Rate											Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
1909	90,750	2792	...	30.76	1448	15.95	48	19	382	136.80	1419	15.63			
1910	91,500	2727	...	29.80	1223	13.36	29	34	313	114.77	1228	13.42			
1911	92,273	2791	2788	30.21	1518	16.45	50	57	424	152.08	1525	16.52			
1912	92,868	2732	2727	29.36	1421	15.30	35	48	359	131.64	1434	15.44			
1913	93,477	2800	2786	29.80	1592	17.03	43	55	439	156.75	1604	17.15			
1914	94,093	2771	2769	29.42	1383	14.69	43	73	321	115.92	1413	15.01			

Area of District in Acres (exclusive of area covered by water)	...	7483	Total population at all ages	...	92,115	At Census of 1911
			Total families or separate occupiers	...	18,943	

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TABLE III.

WALSALL COUNTY BOROUGH.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1914.

CAUSES OF DEATH		Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District										WARDS Nett Deaths at all Ages of "Residents" belonging to Localities, whether occurring in or beyond the District.								Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Public Institutions in the District.									
		All Ages		Under 1 year.		1 and under 2 years		2 and under 5 years		5 and under 15 years		15 and under 25 years		25 and under 45 years		45 and under 65 years		65 and upwards				Bloxwich	Leamore	Birchills	Hatherton	Padcock	Bridge	Pleck	Caldmore	Walsall Workhouse
		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10																			
All causes { Certified ... Uncertified	Enteric Fever	1412	321	84	57	57	51	179	327	337	136	167	250	184	126	135	196	203	15	241									
	Small-pox	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Whooping-cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pneumonia (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Other Tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Organic Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pneumonia (all forms - Other diseases of Respiratory organs)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Diarrhoea and Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other accidents and Diseases of pregnancy and parturition	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility & Malformation, including Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suicides	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All causes	...	1413	321	84	57	57	51	179	327	337	136	167	250	184	126	135	193	204	15	241									
Sub-Entries. Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...							

1900

1900

1900



School Medical Report

For the year ended December 31st, 1914.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The order of this Report is, as before, that set forth under Section VI. of the Board's Circular 596, dated 17th August, 1908.

6. a. **Ventilation and Warming of the Schools.**

The general hygienic conditions of the schools are good, those of the newer schools showing improvement over the older ones. The ventilation, as a rule, is good, but in some instances is not properly used by the teachers. The lavatories, etc., are sufficient and clean with a plentiful supply of water.

b. The Officers employed in the Medical Inspection at the schools are as follows:—

B.I. 1. The Medical Officer of Health (Dr. Harry Shore), who has been recognised as School Medical Officer, and is responsible generally.

II. 2. The School Medical Inspector who personally examines all school cases, keeps records, furnishes reports, and devotes whole time to the work. This office was vacant for the later part of the year owing to the resignation of Dr. Serjeant at the end of August.

Three School Nurses, each of whom is responsible for one-third of the school area. The children at the schools are seen regularly by the Nurses, examined for obvious defects, and with regard to cleanliness. After school hours each day the

Nurses do office work in connection with the Medical Inspection, and also on Saturday mornings. They treat minor ailments under the direction of the Schools Medical Inspector, and do such home visiting as can be arranged to ensure the best possible result from the Medical Inspection.

A Committee of voluntary workers is following up at the homes cases of defects found in the course of the Medical Inspection, with a view to persuading the parents to do what may be possible.

The School Teachers assist in partly filling up the cards, by weighing and measuring the children, and by notifying to the parents the day and time of the examination, &c.

The School Attendance Officers deliver notices of defects found at the examination, and furnish daily lists of absentees from school with the nature of the alleged illness, and help in many other ways.

III. Each parent receives a card giving the day and time of the examination of the child, and an invitation to be present. In all cases where a defect is discovered, a notice is sent to the parent stating the defect found, and advising medical attention when necessary.

IV. There is very little disturbance of the school arrangements. Where possible, the examination is held in the Head Teacher's private room, in other cases a small classroom is cleared. At Field Street School special rooms for Medical Inspection have been provided.

C.I. 105 visits have been paid to schools and departments. This does not include two visits to the same school in one day.

II. The children inspected during the year have been :—

- (a) Newly admitted children of the age of 5.
- (b) Children leaving school, *i.e.*, 14 years of age.
- (c) Special cases.

		AGE 5.	AGE 14.	SPECIAL CASES.
Boys	...	857	818	
Girls	...	928	665	1750

III. Total number examined :—

	1913.	1914.
Routine Examinations	3872	3268
Special „	3494	1750

Age	Average weight in lbs		Anthropometrical weight. (Brit. Association)		Average height in inches.		Anthropometrical measurements (Brit. Association)	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
13	71	80	82	87	57	58	56·91	57·77
5	38	37	39·9	39·2	40	41	41 03	40·55

The number of parents present at the routine examinations was 1379 or 42·1 per cent. This is a falling off as compared with 45·9 per cent. in 1913. This falling off may be explained by (a) indifference, (b) the growing knowledge that the children are not frightened by the examination and the parent considers her presence unnecessary. (c) parents in the poorer district are often at work and are hence unable to attend. It is greatly to be hoped that the interest taken by the parents in the examination will improve. The information supplied by the parent as to the family history and to the child's past history is of great importance. Certain defects too can be personally demonstrated, and the importance of obtaining special attention is more readily im pressed.

IV. **Special Cases.**

The arrangements in force during the year are as follows :

On Tuesday afternoons an Inspection clinic is held in the Medical Department at the Council House. This is for the North West and South East districts of the Borough. On Thursday afternoons a Clinic is held at Field Street Council School for the district of Bloxwich. On Saturday mornings the clinic is still held at Wisemore Council School, but this is confined to contagious cases, principally ringworm, itch, and other skin diseases.

Daily lists of absentees from school are furnished by the School Attendance Officers to the School Medical Department. The children who are able to attend are summoned to one of the School Inspection Clinics, others are visited and reported on by the School Nurses, and later, when fit, are drafted down to the Clinics.

By this means absentees are under supervision, and the approximate time absence from school fixed, and the date of the return finally furnished to the School Attendance Officers. Children who are under the care of their own doctor are not sent for.

In addition to these, the consumptive children of the town who are not attending school, are in the great majority of cases seen at regular intervals of one month.

The Inspection Clinic forms a most important part of School Medical work. It has become necessary owing to the negligence of parents in carrying out the Medical Inspector's instructions.

- V. The number of notices sent to parents concerning defects has been 10·2 per cent. as compared with 13 per cent. last year.
- VI. The average time for the routine examination is six minutes.

Results of Examinations at all Ages.

		1914.		1913.
No. of children examined	...	3268		3872
No. of parents present	...	1379	% 42·1	% 45·9
Dirty heads	... ..	267	8·2	9
Body vermin	... ..	6	·1	·4
Defective teeth	... ..	2146	65·6	65
Enlarged Tonsils and adenoids	...	218	6·6	6
Blepharitis (sore lids)	...	45	1·3	1·6
Strabismus (squint)	... ..	65	1·9	2
Defective sight	... ..	307	9·3	10
Defective hearing	... ..	144	4·4	8·9
Ear discharge	... ..	32	·9	1·8
Heart disease	... ..	12	·3	·4
Phthisis	... ..	191	5·8	5
Bronchitis	... ..	3	·09	·5
Rickets	... ..	43	1·2	1·8
Ruptures	... ..	12	·3	·5
Goitres	... ..	83	2·5	2·9
Tuberculosis	... ..	4	·1	·1
Unvaccinated	... ..	957	28·9	25·5
Excluded	... ..	24	·7	·7
Family History of Consumption			...	21·5
			in 1913	24

Analysis for Age for Sex.

Age 14.			Boys.	%	Girls.	%
No. of children examined	...		818		665	
No. of parents present	...		208	25.4	243	36.5
Unvaccinated	...	...	113	13.8	109	16.3
Dirty heads	...	...	0	0	110	16.5
Body vermin	...	...	2	.2	1	.1
Defective teeth	...	...	566	69.1	429	64.5
Enlarged tonsils and adenoids			57	6.9	51	7.6
Strabismus	...	...	15	1.8	9	1.3
Defective Sight	...	...	130	15.8	150	22.5
Defective hearing	...	...	66	8	56	8.4
Discharge from ears	...		4	.4	4	.6
Heart disease	...	...	3	.3	8	1.2
Bronchitis	...	...	4	.4	3	.4
Phthisis	...	...	1	.1	0	0
Rickets	...	...	7	.8	4	.6
Ruptures	...	...	0	0	0	0
Goitres	...	...	24	2.9	58	8.7
Tuberculosis	...	...	2	.2	1	.1
Blepharitis	...	...	9	1.1	8	1.2
Excluded	...	...	0	0	0	0

Other Diseases or Defects.

			Boys.	Girls.
Enlarged cervical glands	...	...	7	4
Scabies	...	...	3	1
Anæmia	...	...	2	8
Ichthyosis	...	...	4	3
Lateral curvature	...	...	3	10
Alopecia	...	...	1	2
Conjunctivitis	...	...	3	2
Bifid Uvula	...	...	1	1
Infantile paralysis	...	...	3	0

Age 5.

		Boys.	%	Girls.	%
No. of children examined	..	857		928	
No. of parents present	...	410	47·8	518	55·8
Unvaccinated	... ..	380	44·3	359	38·6
Dirty heads	... ..	8	·9	150	16·1
Body vermin	... ..	0	0	4	·4
Defective teeth	... ..	577	67·3	474	51
Enlarged tonsils and adenoids	...	58	6·7	53	5·7
Strabismus	... ..	21	2·4	20	2·1
Defective sight	... ..	3	·3	4	·4
Defective hearing	... ..	12	1·4	13	1·4
Discharge from ears	... ..	12	1·4	12	1·2
Heart disease	... ..	2	·2	3	·3
Bronchitis	... ..	82	9·5	102	10·9
Phthisis	... ..	1	·1	1	·1
Rickets	... ..	19	2·2	11	1·1
Ruptures	... ..	10	1·1	2	·2
Goitres	... ..	0	0	1	·1
Tuberculosis	... ..	1	·1	0	0
Blepharitis	... ..	12	1·4	16	1·7
Excluded	... ..	14	1·6	5	·5

Other Diseases or Defect.

			Boys.	Girls.
Cervical glands enlarged	... ..	...	39	14
Conjunctivitis	... ..	...	5	5
Infantile paralysis	... ..	...	3	2
Ichthyosis	... ..	...	2	5
Ringworm	... ..	...	5	2
Undescended testis	... ..	...	8	—
Chorea	... ..	...	—	2
Seborrhœa	... ..	...	1	4

Remarks.

It will be noticed that the numbers seen at the Routine Inspection and at the Clinics are smaller than last year. This is explained by the illness of Dr. Sergeant during the early part of the year, and by the fact that when she resigned in August, a substitute was not at once provided and Medical Inspection was for a considerable time at a standstill.

It will be also noticed that the children inspected were those at the age of 5 and 14. This is explained by the Board of Education's requirements, viz.: that in 1915 the leaving age should be changed from 14 to 12. On this account a great deal of the work was taken up with the examination of children who would leave in 1915, i.e., who were born in 1901.

Dirty Heads.

This year records a satisfactory drop in the percentage of dirty heads, i.e., from 9 per cent. to 8·2 per cent. When it is remembered that at the end of 1908 the percentage was 27·6 per cent., the wonderful work of the past six years in this direction will be appreciated. The results speak well for the methods adopted, and for the untiring energy of the nurses, to whom is due all the credit of this very satisfactory condition.

Defective Teeth.

This percentage has somewhat increased. Little improvement can be expected until more funds are at the disposal of local Education Authorities than can be allocated at present.

Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids.

This percentage has also increased. For minor enlargements a morning course of breathing exercises should be undertaken, and the children should be encouraged to use the handkerchief freely so that the nasal passages shall be as clear as possible.

Defective Sight.

There is the usual disproportion between the girls and boys—the girls suffering more from this defect. At five years old the disproportion is not so marked, being 3 per cent. to 4 per cent. At 14 however, the ratio has increased considerably, being 15·8 to 22·5 per cent.

Vaccination.

28·9 per cent. of the children examined were found to have no vaccination marks. It is obvious that there is a yearly increasing number of persons who are unprotected against Small-pox. It is to be hoped that a severe object lesson will not be the means of enlightening people as to the terrible risk they run.

To compare the infant returns of the last three years :—

1912.	Infant Boys	...	18 per cent. unvaccinated.
	„ Girls	...	19 „ „
1913.	„ Boys	...	33 „ „
	„ Girls	...	25·5 „ „
1914.	„ Boys	...	44·3 „ „
	„ Girls	...	38·6 „ „

Clothing and Boots.

No.	CLOTHING.				BOOTS.		
	Good	Fair	Poor		Good	Fair	Poor
3268	2347	727	194	|	2605	421	242

Good=sufficient to protect the child, but not necessarily clean or in good repair.

Fair =probably sufficient to protect the child.

Poor =insufficient to rags.

A large number of children wear no wool under the outer garment.

The number of cases of notifiable diseases sent by the Medical Officer of Health to the School Medical Inspector is as follows :—

Scarlet Fever	...	51	(1913—104).
Diphtheria	...	31	(1913.. 33).

Blind and Deaf children are sent to special schools for such cases at Edgbaston and Exeter.

Returns of the School Nurses for 1914.

District.	Children seen.	Notes to Parents.	Dressings.	Home visits.	Days with S.M.I.	Office.
N. Walsall	23,606	2,577	422	265	26½	16
S. Walsall	23,876	3,107	211	232	42½	11
Bloxwich	19,620	1,548	150	204	35½	16

In the returns of each Nurse, the number of notes sent to the parents has increased considerably in the North and South Walsall districts, and diminished considerably in the Bloxwich area. The increase in North Walsall is 852, in South Walsall 366. The diminution in the case of Bloxwich is 563.

A slightly larger number of home visits has been paid. Many of these cases, as has been pointed out before, have been taken from the daily lists of absentees furnished by the School Attendance Officers. When the ailment alleged makes it doubtful if the child could attend an Inspection clinic, the Nurse of the district calls at the house and ascertains the condition of the child, and reports on it to the School Medical Inspector. Where a dressing is necessary it is applied or the case transferred to the District Staff of the Victoria Nursing Home—if the child is considered fit to attend school, it is requested to attend the next Clinic. Whatever condition the Nurse finds is entered opposite the child's name on the list. The School Medical Inspector enters opposite the name the probable date of the child's return to school after being seen at

the Clinic, or its length of absence before being again seen. In this way much valuable work is done and a very constant supervision kept on the children.

During the year 23 cases have been transferred from the care of the School Nurses to the District Nursing Staff of the Victoria Nursing Home. 309 visits have been paid to them. These comprise such things as sores, abscesses, scalds and burns, pneumonia and pleurisy, eczema, discharging eyes, etc. Many thanks are due to Miss Holloway, the lady superintendent, for her kindness in allowing the transference of these children, which has enabled many children to attend school, and assisted in making the medical work more efficient.

Thanks are also due to the ladies of the Children's Care Committee for the interest they continue to take in the children's welfare and for their great work in providing remedies for defects. During the year 92 pairs of glasses have been supplied to the children, and the cost of the visit to the doctor defrayed.

Much help is also given by the Chief Attendance Officer and his staff. There is a constant interchange of information between the two departments, and any help required is given with unfailing readiness.

The report would be incomplete without a reference to the assistance given to the School Officers by the Head Teachers. To their kindly co-operation we are much indebted.

HARRY SHORE, *M.D., D.P.H.*,

School Medical Officer.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES

for the Borough of Walsall,
for the year ended December 31st, 1914.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith submit to you a Report for the year 1914, giving particulars of the work performed under your direction by the Inspectorial Staff of the Health Department.

STAFF.

One change in the staff, viz.:—Miss Sadler commenced duties as Health Visitor in April replacing Miss Fleming, who resigned after two years service.

MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS.

The table giving particulars of proceedings before the Justices is a little more lengthy than in previous years, due to summonses being issued against negligent tenants in respect to the filthy and neglected state of the sanitary conveniences, these proceedings resulted in a marked improvement throughout the Borough in the general cleanliness of sanitary accommodation used in common by the occupiers of two or more houses.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT.

Particulars of Nuisances and other matters dealt with are given in Table I, and structural improvements effected in Table II.

Two thousand nine hundred and sixty-two nuisances and other matters coming within the work of the Department were dealt with and satisfactorily remedied. The number of Statutory Notices served is higher than for some years, this increase is caused by the issue of formal notices under Section 36 of the Public Health Act, relative to insufficient closet or ashpit accommodation, in many cases no informal notice was given, the Statutory Notices being served on your instructions.

Of the notices not complied with on December 31st, 1914, 89 related to nuisances, in the majority of these the work was arranged for, 144 related to houses, 286 required the provision of sufficient water closets or ashpits, and 19 were in connection with other matters.

In my report last year, I commented upon the delay in remedying insanitary conditions in houses of the poorer type; this delay has been more marked in the year's work under review, especially since August, no doubt to some extent the postponement of repairs has been due to the inability of owners to obtain workmen in the building trades for carrying out requirements of notices in this respect.

In January, a number of properties were visited by you during an enquiry into the Housing question, special instructions were given with regard to the provision of flushing apparatus for closets used in common. The insanitary conditions resultant upon the system of hand-flushed closets in such circumstances, being so obvious, conditions dangerous to the Public Health, which should not be possible where a properly constructed and sufficient water closet was provided.

Privy
Conversion.

Following this inspection, there were reported to the Committee other cases in respect to which notices were served, and here again the outbreak of war materially affected the progress of the work, there being 286 notices outstanding at the termination of the year. It is however gratifying to report, that there were 199 old privies dispensed with and replaced by 242 water closets fitted with flushing cisterns, and 277 hand flushed closets were efficiently repaired and flushing apparatus attached, also 681 ashbins were provided in place of open ashpits, a weekly collection of house refuse being effected in each case.

The number of houses where the closet or ashpit accommodation has been improved during the year is 1474, of this number it was necessary in 79 houses for the work to be done by the Borough Surveyor, the owners having made default in complying with the notices, the percentage on the total cases dealt with being 6 per cent.

Notice to
Occupiers.

Five hundred and eighty-two notices, principally relating to dirty houses, workshops, or water-closets, have been addressed to occupiers or tenants.

Smoke
Nuisances.

In four cases a report was made, and in each instance a notice was issued.

HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, &c. ACT.

One thousand and ten houses have been reported on; of these, 15 were referred to the Medical Officer of Health as unfit for human habitation, and in 271 cases, defects were apparent to which the owners' attention was called.

A total of 75 houses were closed, 58 demolished, and 347 repaired and renovated.

HOUSE DRAINAGE.

Plans.

Plans showing improved drainage of 263 houses have been recorded, viz.:—64 in No. 1, 62 in No. 2, and 137 in No. 3 Districts, also in No. 3 District 2 Workshops and 1 Sunday School.

One hundred and six tests have been made, viz.:— Drain Tests. alleged defective drains 57, in connection with Typhoid cases 9, other illnesses 5, the remaining tests were for other reasons, or for trying new work.

The tests have included, in No. 1 District the drains of 68 houses, in No. 2 District 90 houses, and in No. 3 District 35 houses and 1 school. Upwards of a mile length of new drains have been laid for improving existing buildings.

Thirty-two houses previously undrained have been connected by properly laid pipe drains to the sewer.

An approximate estimate of the number of closets in the Borough was made in October, 1912, in a reply to an enquiry from the Local Government Board, the figures have been corrected and brought up-to-date, the approximate estimate at the end of 1914 is:—

Water-closets, furnished with flushing cisterns	7,019
„ „ hand-flushed	10,200
„ „ waste water	85
Privies with fixed receptacles	800
„ „ movable receptacles	5
Total	<u>18,109</u>

In 109 cases the keeping of animals or poultry under foul conditions was reported, and the nuisances satisfactorily abated.

No. of Privies
in the Borough.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Two hundred and eighty-one registered persons are visited, and any contraventions of the Regulations dealt with. Generally, the cowsheds and milk stores are satisfactorily kept.

Nuisances from
keeping of
Animals.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There were 40 private slaughterhouses in use, 17 are registered, and 23 licensed, 22 of the licenses being for a period of one year. The buildings are maintained in a fairly satisfactory state, with the exception of a few of the oldest premises, where the proximity of other buildings, or insufficient accommodation for fasting animals, militates against the best of conditions being maintained.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Particulars of unwholesome food destroyed are given on page 77.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Only about half of the Workshops in the Borough have had visits recorded, but in the course of the year's work, the sanitary accommodation and water supply of practically all the workshops has been enquired into.

OUTWORKERS.

Each outworker has been visited, and with but few exceptions, the work has been carried on under good sanitary conditions. No case of infectious disease has been found in an outworker's home during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The duties in connection with notifiable disease (other than Tuberculosis) have been comparatively light, viz.:— 306 cases notified in 1914, as compared with 411 in 1911, and 726 in 1910.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

A Quarterly Return is made to the Local Government Board and to the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, as to the result of analysis of samples and proceedings generally for securing compliance with the Acts.

The Annual Report commences on page 90.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACTS.

There has been no action taken under this Act during the year.

CANAL BOATS ACTS.

Particulars are contained in the Annual Report commencing on page 95.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

Twelve houses let in lodgings are registered and used in the Borough.

A close supervision has been continued. In No. 1 District, 7 such houses have been repaired.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITALS.

The Infectious Diseases Hospitals at Sneyd Lane, Bloxwich, and Hospital Street have been visited from time to time by the Chairman and Medical Officer of Health and their instructions have been carried into effect. The Hospital at Sneyd Lane has been closed since February 21st, 1905. The caretaker keeps the bedding and clothing well aired, and a ward can be made ready for use at any time on giving one hour's notice.

The provision of a Thresh Disinfector was made at the Hospital Street buildings in April.

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN CIVIL AND MILITARY SANITARY SERVICES.

In compliance with suggestions contained in a circular letter issued by Dr. Newsholme, Medical Officer of the Local Government Board, assistance was given for securing the satisfactory disposal of garbage and other refuse, and in the provision of conservancy arrangements in connection with the billeting of troops in the Town Hall, Temperance Hall, and Whitehall Infants School; frequent visits were made for ascertaining that the drainage systems were working satisfactorily, and disinfectant was supplied for preventing any nuisance prior to removal of refuse, such removal being effected once at least every 24 hours. No case of Infectious Disease was notified among the men stationed in the Borough.

NEW STATUTORY POWERS.

Certain Sections of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907 came into force on April 8th, 1914; those adopted in Parts 3, 4 & 5 of the Act being administered by the Health Committee.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS MADE DURING THE YEAR.

No of dwelling-houses examined as to their Sanitary conditions under the Housing, &c. Act ...	1010
„ District Inspections	8275
„ Inspections of Workshops	335
„ „ Factories (with regard to Sanitary conveniences)	38
„ Inspections of Homes of Outworkers ...	215
„ „ Slaughter-houses	2106
„ „ Bakehouses	272
„ „ Fishyards	416
„ „ Dairies, or Cowsheds, or Milk-shops	719
„ „ Houses let in Lodgings ...	303
„ „ work proceeding for abatement of nuisances after notice...	12896
„ Visits to houses in which Infectious Disease occurred	637
„ Samples of Water obtained	21
„ „ under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts	197
„ Canal Boats Inspected	64
„ Fumigations after notifiable disease ...	143
„ „ „ Phthisis and Cancer ...	89
„ Drain Tests	106
<hr/>	
Total recorded visits	<u>27842</u>

No. of Complaints received	308
„ Nuisances abated	2962
„ Cases of Infectious Disease notified including Tuberculosis	675
„ Letters sent out	2007
„ „ received	753

The District Inspectors and Clerks have performed their duties well during the year and here I would like to acknowledge the large amount of work they perform.

In conclusion, I beg to tender to the Committee sincere thanks for their continued support and help in the performance of my duties.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR T. HUBBLE,

Mem. of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association,
Inspector of Nuisances.

Health Department,

Council House, Walsall,

February 3rd, 1915.

Table I.

Number of Nuisances and other matters visited and reported by the Inspectors.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
Foul drains, water closets, privies and ashpits	298	409	376	1083
„ sinks and wastes	35	70	46	151
„ urinals	2	2	1	5
„ manure pits	1	...	1	2
„ ditches or cesspools ... ..	...	...	5	5
„ open ashpits	117	225	43	385
„ rain water cisterns	4	1	...	5
Offensive accumulations of refuse ...	14	9	14	37
Provide flushing cisterns for closets	200	191	185	576
Animals, &c., so kept as to be a nuisance	54	25	30	109
Water-closets or privies improperly fouled	111	59	142	312
Nuisance arising from emission of Mond Gas ... ..	...	1	1	2
Nuisance arising from emission of black smoke	1	3	...	4
Dwelling-houses needing repairs throughout	83	111	137	331
Dwelling-houses having defective spoutings	41	10	16	67
Dwelling-houses in a dirty state ...	13	13	12	38
„ or parts thereof over- crowded	17	22	19	58
Dwelling-houses having stagnant water in cellar	2	...	...	2
Dwelling-houses not having sufficient water closets or ashpits ...	12	7	7	26
Dwelling-houses not having sufficient drains	44	13	31	88
Dwelling-houses without a proper supply of drinking water ...	..	2	...	2
Workshops needing limewashing & cleansing	15	25	20	60
Workshops needing ventilation ...	2	2	1	5
Backyards needing paving or re- paving	20	21	14	55
To limewash houses let in lodgings	7	7	...	14
Carried forward ..	1093	1228	1101	3422

Table 1—continued.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
Brought forward ...	1093	1228	1101	3422
To limewash cowsheds (postcards to occupiers ...	25	12	43	80
„ fix sign at slaughterhouse ..	2	4	..	6
„ furnish lists of outworkers ...	7	14	5	26
„ fishmongers re disposal of fish offal	25	33	26	84
„ fruiterers re Mildew Order ..	43	46	28	117
„ tenants, notice “Closing Order operative”	10	...	8	18
TO BOROUGH SURVEYOR.				
Building or wells apparently in an unsafe condition ..	19	18	13	50
Defective spoutings discharging on to footpath	15	22	6	43
Insufficient water supply at dwelling-houses	1	12	...	13
Insufficient closet accommodation at workshops	1	2	...	3
Buildings erected without plans being submitted	3	1	2	6
To cleanse ashpits. ... ..	...	...	...	7340
TO SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE WATER WORKS CO.				
Waste of water	15	25	4	44
Total	1259	1417	1236	11252
No. of notices on books 31/12/13 ...	95	113	106	314
No. of nuisances and other matters reported during the year ...	1026	1145	1015	3186
No. of informal notices served during the year	576	644	549	1769
‡ No. of statutory notices served during the year	348	398	515	1261
* No. of notices not complied with December 31st, 1914 ..	165	175	198	538
No. of nuisances abated	956	1083	923	2962
‡ A notice may include several nuisances or other matters.				
* The notices not complied with included viz.:				
Nuisances	36	29	24	89
Housing repairs	30	41	73	144
Insufficient closets, &c.	88	103	95	286
Other matters	11	2	6	19

Table II.

Sanitary Work in compliance with notices.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
No. of old privies converted into water closets ...	28	38	120	186
New drains (yards in length) ...	875	707	1180	2762
No. of drain traps ...	100	136	63	299
„ ventilating shafts ..	41	32	59	132
„ inspection chambers ...	29	29	64	122
„ new pans in water closets ...	42	85	51	178
„ new traps in water closets ...	27	29	16	72
„ water closets repaired ...	71	75	11	157
„ privies repaired ...	...	..	7	7
„ ashpits repaired ...	...	14	17	31
„ ashpits roofed ...	43	58	25	126
„ urinals repaired ...	1	2	...	3
„ yards paved or repaired ...	28	21	24	73
„ drains cleared ...	101	72	95	268
„ water closets cleared ...	55	62	50	167
„ new sanitary sinks ...	34	38	40	112
„ sinks fitted with waste pipes ...	43	52	42	137
„ sink, bath, lavatory waste or rain pipes disconnected from sewer ...	2	1	2	5
„ new water closets ...	13	17	26	56
„ new soil pipes ...	1	...	1	2
„ new ashpits ...	...	1	4	5
„ new ashbins ...	234	303	144	681
„ new urinals ...	1	...	...	1
„ wash-houses repaired ...	14	24	16	54
„ cellar drains disconnected ...	..	7	1	8
„ privies demolished & removed ...	4	7	2	13
„ ashpits „ „ ...	53	60	24	137
„ urinals „ „ ...	3	1	...	4
„ water closets „ „ ...	2	4	...	6
„ houses drained to sewer ...	...	21	11	32
„ intercepting traps ...	3	3	13	19
„ water closets having flushing cisterns provided ...	83	107	87	277
„ manure pits repaired ...	1	...	1	2

Table II—*continued.*

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
DWELLING-HOUSES REPAIRED AND RENOVATED THROUGHOUT	53	65	75	193
,, houses having roofs or spoutings made good ...	67	18	25	110
,, houses cleansed, coloured and re-papered by owners ...	9	9	17	35
,, ditto by occupiers ...	2	3	4	9
Total ...	131	95	121	347
OVERCROWDING.				
No. of houses in which the number of inmates was reduced ...	16	15	10	41
,, houses vacated ...	9	7	11	27
Total ...	25	22	21	68

Table III.**Housing, Town Planning, &c. Act 1909.**

Inspections, &c. under the Act.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL
No. of houses found to be reasonably fit for human habitation ...	219	240	265	724
„ houses having defects for which notices were issued ...	95	86	90	271
„ houses referred to the Medical Officer of Health as unfit for human habitation ...	10	2	3	15
Total ...	324	328	358	1010

Unfit Houses.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
No. of houses represented by the Medical Officer of Health as unfit for human habitation ...	24	...	10	34
„ houses for which Closing Orders were made ...	24	...	13	39
„ houses for which Closing Orders were determined ...	...	...	...	...
„ houses for which Demolition Orders were made ...	22	...	3	25
HOUSES CLOSED OR DEMOLISHED				
No. of houses closed “by Order” ...	26	..	8	34
„ houses closed voluntarily ...	24	10	7	41
Total closed ...	50	10	15	75
„ houses demolished voluntarily ...	30	...	7	37
„ „ „ for which Orders had been made ...	19	1	1	21
Total demolished ...	49	1	8	58

**Situation of Houses for which Closing Orders
were made.**

BLOXWICH WARD—Cottage back 27 Bell Lane.

BIRCHILLS WARD—Nos. 1 and 2 at back 6 and 8 Burrowes Street
Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, in 4 Court, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 in 4½ Court and
Nos. 40 and 41 Shortacre Street.

HATHERTON WARD—Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 at back 65 James Street,
Nos. 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85 Mill Lane, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7,
8 Hyde's Cottages, Warwick Street.

PADDOCK WARD—Nos. 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60 Ball Street.

**Situation of Houses for which Demolition Orders
were made.**

BLOXWICH WARD—Cottage back 27 Bell Lane.

BIRCHILLS WARD—Nos. 1 and 2 at back 6 and 8 Burrowes St.

HATHERTON WARD—Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 at back 65 James Street,
Nos. 1 and 2 in 1 Court Garden Street, No. 2 in 2½ Court
and Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 in 3 Court, John Street.

BRIDGE WARD—Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 in 7 Court,
Stafford Street.

**Situation of Houses represented unfit for human
habitation and for which Closing Orders had been
made, demolished before Demolition Order was
served.**

HATHERTON WARD—Nos. 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85 Mill Lane and
Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 Hyde's Cottages, Warwick St.

Situation of Houses represented unfit for human habitation and demolished after Demolition Orders.

BLOXWICH WARD—Cottage back 27 Bell Lane.

HATHERTON WARD—Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 in 3 Court, John Street.

PADDOCK WARD—Nos. 36 and 37 Bank Street.

BRIDGE WARD—Nos. 2 and 7 back 17 Hill Street, Cottage back 8 New Street, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 in 7 Court, Stafford Street.

Situation of Houses closed voluntarily by owners.

BIRCHILLS WARD—Nos. 1, 2, 3, 3½, 4, 4½ in 7 Court and No. 183 Blue Lane (demolished).

HATHERTON WARD—No. 4 in 1 Court, Ryecroft Street. For extensions of factories, Nos. 77 & 79 Cecil Street, Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 Ryecroft Street. N.B.—Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7 demolished

PADDOCK WARD—Nos. 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37 Ablewell Street, demolished for making of new street.

BRIDGE WARD—Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 Iron Pump Yard, New Street, No. 10 St. Paul's Street (demolished) and No. 15 Upper Rushall Street (demolished)

For extensions of factories, Nos. 37, 38 Duncalfe Street and No. 77 Wisemore.

PLECK WARD—For extensions of factories, Nos. 185 Pleck Road, Nos. 5 and 6 Queen Street.

CALDMORE WARD—Cottage back 31 Newhall Street, Nos. 3, 4, 5 Windmill Cottages, Highgate (demolished).

Table IV.

Samples of water submitted for analysis.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
No. of samples taken :—				
South Staffordshire water ...	7	1	3	11
Well water ...	6	4	..	10
Total ...	13	5	3	21
No. certified as good for drinking..	10	2	2	14
„ „ unsafe for drinking	2	2	..	4
„ „ unfit for drinking ...	1	1	1	3
No. of wells closed ...	..	2	2	4
„ houses supplied with S.S.water	3	6	47	56

District Inspection.

This work has proceeded steadily throughout the year, a portion of each ward has been inspected, the number of houses visited being, viz. :—

No. 1 District	...	...	...	3014 houses.
„ 2 „	...	...	...	2667 „
„ 3 „	...	...	...	2594 „
Total	...	...	...	8275 „

Table V.**Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.**

Each cowshed is limewashed at least twice during the year.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
No. of persons registered during the year as cow-keepers or milk-sellers ...	17	13	13	43
„ cow-keepers on register ...	12	5	24	41
„ milk-sellers ...	66	112	62	240
„ Total ...	78	117	86	281
„ milking cows kept ...	240	79	179	498
„ inspections ...	260	238	221	719

Bakehouses.

Each bakehouse is lime-washed at least twice during the year.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
No. of bakehouses in use ...	16	30	24	70
„ „ registered as factories	5	10	3	18
„ inspections ...	100	89	83	272

Slaughter-houses.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
No. of registered slaughter-houses in use 31/12/14 ...	6	5	6	17
„ licensed slaughter-houses in use 31/12/14 ...	6	8	9	23
Total ...	12	13	15	40
No. of slaughter - house licenses issued (for one year) ...	5	8	9	22
„ notices of occupation received ...	...	1	1	2
„ new signs fitted... ..	2	4	...	6
„ inspections ...	647	678	781	2106

The Slaughterhouse in 1½ Court, Stafford Street, disused since March 1912 was re-occupied and a license for one year issued on November 16th, 1914.

The Slaughterhouse rear 60 Park Street (St. Paul's Row) has not been used during the year.

The Slaughterhouse rear No. 8 Stafford Street was closed and demolished in March, 1914.

Fish Yards.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
No. of fish yards	4	5	2	11
„ inspections	209	131	76	416

Workshops.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL
No. of workshops on the register ...	282	299	143	724
„ notices served relative to in- sanitary conditions at work- shops	24	29	21	74
„ Inspections of workshops ..	128	121	86	335
„ „ factories ..	24	11	3	38
Work carried out in compliance with notices, viz. :—				
No. of rooms lime-washed and cleansed	22	26	18	66
Other nuisances abated, } Factories and Workshops }	9	4	3	16
No. of water-closets repaired ..	5	...	...	5
„ nuisances abated from drains and urinals	2	...	...	2
„ workshops ventilated ...	2	2	1	5
HOMEWORK.				
No. of visits to outworkers ...	47	100	68	215

Table VI.
Unwholesome Food Destroyed.

TUBERCULOUS.

BOVINE	1 Brisket	PIGS	5 Carcases & all organs
	3 Lungs		1 Carcase
	1 Mesentery		2 Forequarters
	1 Liver		2 Heads
			1 Neck
			2 Visceras
			1 Liver
			1 Lung
			1 Mesentery

OTHER DISEASES, UNSOUND, &c.

BEEF	122lbs weight.
PORK	1 Carcase & all organs, 60lbs weight (swine erysipelas) Pair Chawls, 9lbs.
MUTTON	20lbs.

ORGANS.

BOVINE	3 Livers, 1 Heart	TRIPE	8 cases (imported)
SHEEP	3 Livers		
1 TURKEY	71 RABBITS	2 Bags Pickling Cabbage.	
FISH	Roe, 10 stone	Kippers, 18 boxes	Haddocks, 9
CANNED GOODS	1 tin Rabbit	1 tin Potted Meat	
	23 tins Salmon	8 tins Sardines	2 tins Crab
	1 tin Crayfish	3 tins Fish Paste	
	15 tins Tomatoes	33 tins Fruit	
	13 „ Condensed Milk	5 tins Sundries	
	10 Jars Preserves, Jellies, &c.		

Five "seizures" were made, and Justices orders obtained. In the other cases, the food stuffs were surrendered voluntarily on inspection.

Table VII.

Magisterial Proceedings.

Act under which Proceedings were taken.	Nature of Offence.	Date of Hearing.	Remarks.
		1914	
Public Health Acts...	Selling an unsound Rabbit ...	Jan. 7th	Fined £1 and cost 8/-
Public Health Act, 1875 ...	Not abating nuisance from Foul Sink and Damp House 422 Pleck Road ...	Jan 14th	Adjourned 1 week & then Order made for work to be done within 7 days with costs ...
Walsall Corporation Act, 1890, Sec. 60...	Filthy Water Closets & approaches thereto Brewer's Yard, Walhouse St. (five tenants)	Feb. 4th	One summons withdrawn. 4 tenants ordered to pay 2/6 including costs
Ditto ...	Ditto 20 to 24 Ball St. (five tenants) ...	Feb. 4th	One summons withdrawn, 4 tenants ordered to pay 2/6, including costs ...
Public Health Act, 1875 ...	To recover £6 15 0 expenses in providing a sufficieut water closet and ashpit at 97 to 99 Blakenall Heath ...	Mar. 3rd	Order for payment made
Housing, Town Planning, &c. Act, 1909	Non-compliance with notice of Closing Order operative, 2 house, 1 Court, Garden Street ...	May 13th	Order made to vacate house within 14 days
Ditto ...	Do. 1 rear 65 James St	„	Ditto ditto
Ditto ...	Do. 2 „ „	„	Ditto ditto
Ditto ...	Non-compliance with Order of Justices to vacate house after Closing Order 2 house 1 Court, Garden St.	June 17th	Adjourned 3 times and on July 30th the summons was struck out ...
Ditto ...	Do. 1 rear 65 James St	„	Ditto ditto

Magisterial Proceedings—continued.

Act under which Proceedings were taken.	Nature of Offence.	Date of Hearing.	Remarks.
		1914	
Public Health Act, 1875	Not abating Nuisance from Foul Drain, 141 Pleck Road ...	Aug. 5th	Order made for work to be done within 6 days, with costs 8/7
Ditto ...	Do. 10 & 11 Upper Wallhouse Street ...	Oct. 12th	Order made for work to be done within 3 days, with costs 9/6
Ditto ...	Not abating nuisance Overcrowded combined living & sleeping room 20 Frederick Street.	Oct. 19th	Order made to vacate house within 7 days see Nov. 24th and remarks
Ditto ...	Not abating nuisance from defective roof, 35 Duncalfe Street...	Nov. 11th	Summons withdrawn on payment of costs of 3/6, work done prior to hearing
Ditto ...	Non-compliance with Justice's Order to abate nuisance from overcrowding 20 Frederick Street ...	Nov. 24th	Adjourned 1 week, Dec. 1st, Fined £1 or 14 days imprisonment
Public Health Act ...	Selling a Tuberculous Pig Carcase ...	Nov. 24th	Fined £2 10 0 and costs 17/6

Table VIII.**Infectious Diseases.**

Three hundred and six cases were notified under the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, from January 1st, 1914 to December 31st, 1914.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
No. of visits to infected houses ...	182	241	214	637
„ houses fumigated by Inspectors	33	57	53	143

No. of persons supplied with brushes	...	1442
„ „ „ lime	...	1750

In addition to the above, 89 houses have been disinfected by the Sanitary Inspectors, viz. :—After Phthisis, 22 in No. 1 District, 35 in No. 2 District, and 30 in No. 3 District, after Cancer, 2 in No. 2 District.

On December 31st there were 12 houses infected with notifiable disease, viz. :—in No. 1 District, 2 with Scarlet Fever and 1 with Diphtheria ; in No. 2 District, 2 with Scarlet Fever, and 3 with Diphtheria ; in No. 3 District, 1 with Scarlet Fever and 3 with Diphtheria.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
No. of infected houses, Dec. 31st, 1913	2	2	2	6
„ houses in which disease was notified, 1914 ...	71	113	96	280
„ cases notified ...	76	124	106	306
„ Infected houses Dec. 31st, 1914	3	5	4	12

Number of Notices sent to Schools respecting Infectious Diseases in houses from which children attend School, January 1st, 1914 to December 31st, 1914.

NAME OF SCHOOL	No. of Notices sent re Infected Houses.	No. of Notice sent Houses free from Infection.
Bath Street ...	1	1
Blakenall ...	1	1
Bridge ...	7	6
Butts ...	6	5
Caldmore ...	...	...
Chuckery ...	4	2
Centenary ...	1	2
Croft Street ...	6	4
Elmore Green ...	9	9
Field Street ...	...	...
Hillary Street ...	11	10
Leamore ...	3	4
National (Bloxwich) ...	5	4
North Walsall ...	4	3
Palfrey ...	11	11
St. Andrews ...	5	4
St. John's, Pleck ...	...	...
St. Matthew's ...	...	...
St. Patrick's Roman Catholic ...	2	2
St. Peter's Roman Catholic (Blox- wich) ...	10	9
Tantarra Street ...	2	2
Wesley (Ablewell Street) ...	4	3
Whitehall ...	4	3
Whitehouse Street ...	1	...
Wisemore ...	3	2
Wolverhampton Road ...	18	16
Others ...	13	11
Total ...	131	114=245

Notices to Sunday Schools of Infected Houses	...	77
„ Medical Inspector of Schools	...	82
Total	...	<u>404</u>

Streets and Places in the Borough where Infectious Diseases have been reported and visited by the Inspectors during the year 1914, alphabetically arranged in the different Wards of the Borough.

Bloxwich Ward.

STREETS.	No. of cases of Scarlet Fever.	No of cases of Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup.	No. of cases of Enteric Fever.	No. of cases of Puerperal Fever.	No. of cases of Erysipelas.	No. of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	No. of cases of Acute Poliomyelitis.	No. of cases of Cerebro Spinal Fever.
Alfred Street ...						1		
Broad Lane ...	6							
Church Street ...	2			1	1	2		
Clarendon Street ...	1							
Elmore Green Road ...	2							
Elmore Row ...						1		
Field Street ...					1			
Harrison Street ...	3							
High Street ...	2				2			
Lichfield Road ...					2			
New Street ...		1			1			
Park Road ...	1				1	1		
Stafford Road ...						1		
Station Street ...	2							
Sand Bank ...	1				1			
Sneyd Lane ...						1		
Victoria Street ...					2			
Wallington Heath ...					1			
Total ...	20	1		1	12	7		

Leamore Ward.

STREETS.	No. of cases of Scarlet Fever.	No. of cases of Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup.	No. of cases of Enteric Fever.	No. of cases of Puerperal Fever.	No. of cases of Erysipelas.	No. of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	No. of cases of Acute Poliomyelitis.	No. of cases of Cerebro Spinal Fever.
Alma Street ...			I					
Barracks Lane ...	I							
Bloxwich Road ...	9				I			
Bentley Lane (Friars Road) ..				I				
Blakenall Heath ...	I							
Cope Street ...					I			
Essex Street ...					I			
Green Lane ...						I		
Harden ...		2						
Kent Street ...					I			
Northcote Street ...					I			
Pinfold ...					I			
Portland Street ...		2						
Reeds Wood Lane ...		I						
Reeves Street ...	I				I			
Victoria Terrace ...			I					
Total ...	12	5	2	I	7	I		

Birchills Ward.

STREETS.	No. of cases of Scarlet Fever.	No. of cases of Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup.	No. of cases of Enteric Fever.	No. of cases of Puerperal Fever.	No. of cases of Erysipelas.	No. of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	No. of cases of Acute Poliomyelitis.	No. of cases of Cerebro Spinal Fever.
Bentley Lane ...					1			
Blue Lane ...					3			
Burrowes Street ...		2			1			
Cairns Street ...	5							
Croft Street ..		1			2			
Dalkeith Street ...		2						
Farringdon Street ...		3			1	1		
Green Lane ..		2	1			1		
Hollyhedge Lane ...	1				1	1		
Hospital Street ...	1			1	1			
Jessel Road ...	1							
Lewis Street ...		1						
Little Street ...					1			
Long Acre Street ...				1				
Margaret Street ...		1			1	1		
Neale Street ...		1						
Old Birchills ...		1						
Pargeter Street ...		1						
Penkridge Street ...		1			1			
Raleigh Street ..		1			1			
Rowland Street ...						1		
Shortacre Street ..					1			
Stafford Street ...	4			1				
Wolverhampton Rd	1	1			1			
Wolverhampton St.		1						
Total ...	13	19	1	3	16	5		

Hatherton Ward.

STREETS.	No. of cases of Scarlet Fever.	No. of cases of Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup.	No. of cases of Enteric Fever.	No. of cases of Puerperal Fever.	No. of cases of Erysipelas.	No. of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	No. of cases of Acute Poliomyelitis.	No. of cases of Cerebro Spinal Fever.
Ann Street ...						1		
Brewer Street ...						1		
Cannon Street ...		1	1					
Cecil Street ...		3						
Day Street ...		1						
Eastbourne Street ..	1							
Forster Street, Upper		1						
Garden Street ...					2			
James Street ...		1			1			
Lichfield Street ...					1			
Littleton Street West	2							
Mellish Road ...	1							
Mill Street ..					1			
North Street ..					2			
Portland Street ..		1			1	1		
Proffit Street ...		1						
Ryecroft Street ...					1			
Stafford Street ...		1						
Teddesley Street ...						1		
The Butts ...					1			
Total ...	4	10	1		10	4		

Paddock Ward.

STREETS.	No. of cases of Scarlet Fever.	No. of cases of Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup.	No. of cases of Enteric Fever.	No. of cases of Puerperal Fever.	No. of cases of Erysipelas.	No. of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	No. of cases of Acute Poliomyelitis.	No. of cases of Cerebro Spinal Fever.
Balls Street ...					1			
Bank Street ...						1		
Beacon Street ...	1							
Bott Lane ...					1			
Burleigh Street ...	1							
Forster Street Lower ...	1							
Hatherton Street ...					2			
Lime Street ...						1		
Lodge Road, B'ham Road ...		1						
Lumley Road ...	2				1	1		
Moncrieffe Street ...						2		
Paddock Lane ...						3		
Rowley Street ...		1			1			
Selbourne Street ...	1							
Sutton Crescent ...		1						
Tantarra Street ...	1					2		
Walhouse Street ...						1		
Ward Street ...					1			
Willows Road ...	1							
Total ...	8	3			7	11		

Bridge Ward.

STREETS.	No. of cases of Scarlet Fever.	No. of cases of Diphtheria including Membranous Croup.	No. of cases of Enteric Fever.	No. of cases of Puerperal Fever.	No. of cases of Erysipelas.	No. of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	No. of cases of Acute Poliomyelitis.	No. of cases of Cerebro Spinal Fever.
Ablewell Street ...	I							
Bradford Street ...	I							
Bullocks Row ...					I			
Corporation St. West ...	I							
Dandy's Walk ...					I			
Digbeth ...	2							
Dudley Street ...					I			
Duncalfe Street ..					I			
George Street ...						I		
Gorton's Yard ...		I						
Hall Lane Lower ...					I			
High Street ...					I			
Hill Street ...							I	
New Street ...					I			
Orlando Street ...	2							
Peal Street ...					I			
St. Paul's Row ...					I			
The Bridge ...	2							
Vicarage Place ...	I							
Vicarage Street ...					I			
Wisemore ...	2				I		I	
Total ...	12	I			11	I	2	
*Walsall & District Hospital ...		*2			*1			

*Diphtheria imported from Darlaston.

Erysipelas imported from Cannock.

Pleck Ward.

STREETS.	No. of cases of Scarlet Fever.	No. of cases of Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup.	No. of cases of Enteric Fever.	No. of cases of Puerperal Fever.	No. of cases of Erysipelas.	No. of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	No. of cases of Acute Poliomyelitis.	No. of cases of Cerebro Spinal Fever.
Chapel Street ...					I			
Darlaston Road ...	3							
Dora Street ...	3	I	I					
Forrester Street ...	I		I					
Frederick Street ...		I			I			
Henry Street ..		I						
Kingsley Street ..		I			2			
Long Street ...	3				I	I		
Narrow Lane ...					I			
Navigation Street ...		I			I			
Navigation St. Upper					I			
Oxford Street ...						I		
Pleck Road ...		2			2	2		
Queen Street ...					3			
Rollingmill Street ...					I			
Wednesbury Road ...	I				I	I		
Wolverhampton Rd		I						
Wolverhampton St.					I			
Total ...	11	8	2		16	5		
Walsall Workhouse						I		

Caldmore Ward.

STREETS.	No. of cases of Scarlet Fever.	No. of cases of Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup.	No. of cases of Enteric Fever.	No. of cases of Puerperal Fever.	No. of cases of Erysipelas.	No. of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	No. of cases of Acute Poliomyelitis.	No. of cases of Cerebro Spinal Fever.
Belvidere Road ...					1			
Bescot Street ...		1						
Brace Street ...					1			
Camden Street ...					2			
Cobden Street ...	2	1						
Countess Street ...		4	1					
Jesson Lane ...	3							
Little London ...					1	1		
Lord Street ...	1				1			
Milton Street ...		1			2	1		
Queen Street, Palfrey	1	1						
Rosamond Street ...	1							
Sandwell Street ...	2				1			
Spout Lane ...	2							
Victor Street ...	2				1	2		
Wallows Lane ...		1						
West Bromwich Rd ...	1					1		
Weston Street ...	1				1			
Whitehall Road ...					3	1		
White Street ...								2
Whitmore Street ...	1							
Total ...	17	9	1		14	6		2

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

Report showing number and result of analysis of samples and proceedings taken, during the year ended December 31st, 1914.

Description of Article Analysed.	Total number of samples.	Number certified as genuine.	Number certified as adulterated.
Milk	78	67	11
Preserved Cream	6	6	...
Cream	2	..	2
Butter	45	43	2
Cheese	8	8	...
Lard	9	9	...
Margarine	1	1	...
Coffee	11	11	...
Self Raising Flour	5	5	...
Pepper	9	9	...
Black Currant Jam	1	1	...
Strawberry Jam	1	1	...
Gin	1	1	...
Whiskey	2	2	...
Camphorated Oil	7	4	3
Olive Oil	6	6	...
Total	192	174	18

There is an increase in the number of samples as compared with 1913, when 182 were analysed.

Number of Formal Samples ...	85
Number of Informal Samples ...	107
Number of "Appeal to Cow" Samples ...	5
Total	<u>197</u>

Administrative Action in regard to Samples reported against.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS INSTITUTED UNDER THE SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

No.	Name of Article.	Identification number given to sample and date of purchase.	Result of Analysis.	Date of hearing	Amount of Fine.	Amount of Costs.
1	Milk ...	1914 No. 68 May 26th	8 per cent deficient in cream ...	1914 June 23rd	—	£3 8 6
2	Camphor-ated Oil	No. 79 Jan. 4th	24.3 per cent deficient in camphor ...	June 30th	—	16/-
3	Milk ...	No. 124 Aug. 19th	10 per cent deficient in cream ...	Sept. 16th	—	16/-
*4	Do. ...	No. 147 Oct. 27th	Contained 19 per cent added water ...	Nov. 25th	—	17/-
5	Do. .	No. 156 Oct. 31st	Contained 14 per cent added water ...	Do.	£2 10 0	£1 1 6
6	Do. ...	No. 150 Oct. 27th	Contained 14 per cent added water ...	Do 1915	—	17/-
7	Do. ...	No. 188 Dec. 2nd	Contained 8 per cent added water ...	Jan. 13th	—	17/-
*8	Do. ...	No. 189 Dec. 2nd	Contained 9 per cent added water ...	Do.	—	—
*9	Do. ...	No. 190 Dec. 2nd	Contained 8 per cent added water ...	Do.	—	—
*10	Do. ...	No. 191 Dec. 9th	Contained 8 per cent added water ...	Do.	—	—
11	Do. ...	No. 196 Dec. 10th	Contained 6 per cent added water ...	Do.	—	} £3/10/0
12	Do. ..	No. 197 Dec. 10th	Contained 8 per cent added water ...	Do.	—	

REMARKS.

*The summons for sample No. 147 was dismissed on payment on costs, a conviction being obtained for sample No. 156 taken from the consignor.

*Samples Nos. 189, 190, 191, were from farmer who consigned milk from which samples No. 196 & 197 were taken. Notice of Warranty was given in sample No. 191 and sustained in Court, the summons in this, and summonses for Nos. 189 and 190 were withdrawn.

LIST OF ADULTERATED SAMPLES FOR WHICH LEGAL
PROCEEDINGS WERE NOT INSTITUTED.

Name of Article.	Identification number given to sample and date of purchase.	Result of Analysis.	Course adopted.	Remarks.
Camphor-ated Oil	1914 No. 65 May 25th Informal	26% deficient in Camphor.	A formal sample obtained.	See Sample No. 79 page 91.
Butter ...	No. 107 Aug. 1st Informal	Is Margarine	do.	Each from same vendor purchased on a Saturday, a formal sample No. 113 purchased on Sat. Aug. 15th, was certified genuine.
Do. ...	No. 109 Aug. 8th Informal	Do.		
Camphor-ated Oil	No. 181 Dec. 1st Informal	48% deficient in camphor	do.	Formal sample obtained No. 195 Dec 9th was genuine.

Offences Other than Adulteration.

UNLABELLED MARGARINE.

Ten Shop-keepers were advised and cautioned as to the exposure for sale by retail of unlabelled Margarine. On further visits being made, it was found that the requirements of the Acts as to labelling and the use of marked wrappers, were being complied with.

“ APPEAL TO COW ” SAMPLES.

The farmer from whom sample of milk No. 68 (see legal proceedings) was obtained, requested that samples be taken at milking time.

Samples from the evening's milk, 43½ gallons from 39 cows, placed in 2 churns, were certified as containing respectively 4.45 per cent and 4.55 per cent of fat.

The morning's milk from the same cows, 71 gallons, was placed in 3 churns, the percentage of fats in the samples thus obtained was 3·15, 2·64, and 2·87 per cent.

The periods between milking were 10 hours for evening and 14 hours for morning. The farmer agreed to make the intervals between milking of more equal duration ; and samples obtained since have been up to the standard.

PRESERVATIVES.

Preservatives have not been reported in any article except cream.

INFORMAL OR TEST SAMPLES.

107 samples were obtained informally ; of these, 6 were adulterated, viz.:—2 of Butter, 2 of Cream, and 2 of Camphorated Oil.

All samples were submitted to the Public Analyst.

AMOUNT OF FAT IN MILK SAMPLES.

The average amount of fat was 3·53 per cent. per sample, compared with 3·52 in 1913 and 3·40 per cent. in 1912.

The average of 3·53 per cent. of fat, affords proof that the standard of 3 per cent. is not unfair to the producer, in some respects it may be regarded as not beneficial to the purchaser.

TABLE SHOWING COMPARISON BETWEEN MILK SAMPLES
IN 1911, 1912, 1913 AND 1914.

Amount of Fat.	1911		1912		1913		1914	
	No. of samples	Per-centage	No. of samples	Per-centage	No. of samples	Per-centage	No. of samples	Per-centage
Under 2·5 per cent ...	2	2·2	—	—	1	1·55	—	—
2·5 and under 3 " ...	8	9·0	13	13·6	6	9·23	3	3·82
3·0 " 3·5 " ...	30	33·6	37	38·9	12	18·46	42	53·82
3·5 " 4 " " ...	30	33·6	32	33·6	37	56·92	22	28·20
4·0 per cent. and upwards ...	19	21·3	13	13·6	9	13·84	11	14·10
Totals ...	89		95		65		78	

During the year 3·82 per cent. only of the samples had less than 3 per cent. of fat, 53·82 per cent. had 3 per cent. and less than 3·5 per cent. of fat, and 42·30 per cent. contained upwards of 3·5 per cent. of fat.

Public Health (Milk and Cream) Regulations 1912.

The 2 cases mentioned in last year's report (page 108), as under the consideration of the Health Committee, resulted in 3 summonses being issued against the vendor, two for selling "Preserved Cream," as "Cream," in a receptacle not labelled in the manner prescribed by the Regulations, and 1 summons for advertising "Preserved Cream" as "Fresh Dairy Cream" contrary to the Regulations.

The Justices decision on the 3 summonses was, no conviction, defendant to pay costs £2 7 6.

SAMPLES.

The samples of Cream, 8 in number, were informally submitted under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

Each sample was sent to the Analyst in the original package or receptacle. In 6 cases the receptacle was labelled "Preserved Cream containing Boric Acid not exceeding 0·5 per cent." The analyst certified that the Boric Acid ranged from 0·20 per cent. to 0·38 per cent., and the fat varied in the samples from 45·6 per cent. to 54·6 per cent.

In 2 cases, from the same vendor, the receptacle was not labelled, and Boric Acid to the extent of 0·42 and 0·36 per cent. was certified.

The Health Committee had the vendor's explanation in writing, together with particulars of the purchases, and resolved, that no proceedings be taken, but that the vendor be informed that in any future case proceedings will be taken.

ARTHUR T. HUBBLE,

Inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.
Health Department,

Council House, WALSALL,

Jan. 1st, 1915.

Canal Boats Acts.

Copy of Report made to the Local Government Board,
January 1st, 1915.

Report of the Inspector appointed under the Canal Boats Acts, 1877 and 1884, for the year ended December 31st, 1914.

The Inspector visits the Canal several times weekly in different parts of the Borough.

Name of Inspector :—ARTHUR THOMAS HUBBLE.

Address :—Health Department, Council House, Walsall.

BOATS.

Number of Boats inspected	...	...	...	64
Number of Boats conforming with Acts and Regulations	...	...	...	56
Number of Boats with one or more infringements	...	...	...	8

OCCUPANTS.

Number of men on Boats inspected	...	...	...	97
Number of women on Boats inspected	...	...	...	35
Number of children on boats inspected under 5 years of age	...	...	...	25
Number of children on boats inspected, girls over 5 and under 12, boys over 5 and under 14 years	...	...	...	25

The total registered accommodation on the 64 boats was for 196½ adult persons, and the total number occupying equalled 157 adults.

There is a little decrease in the number of women and children living on Canal Boats, as compared with the numbers met with in previous years.

Eight boats had fore-cabins, 5 of which were used as sleeping places.

The following table gives the ages of the 50 children reported as living on the boats inspected.

				Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Under 1 year				1	3	4
1 and under 2 years				2	5	7
2	„	3	„	2	1	3
3	„	4	„	2	2	4
4	„	5	„	5	2	7
5	„	6	„	1	2	3
6	„	7	„	2	2	4
7	„	8	„	4	—	4
8	„	9	„	2	—	2
9	„	10	„	3	2	5
10	„	11	„	2	—	2
11	„	12	„	1	2	3
12	„	13	„	—	—	—
13	„	14	„	2	—	2
Totals				29	21	50

The condition of the boats examined may be classified as follows :—50 good, 10 fair, and 4 unsatisfactory.

The sanitary state of 58 of the boats examined was satisfactory and the cabin and their appurtenances cleanly, 6 boats needed repairs and painting.

The occupants (with the exception of a boy of 15, stated to be recovering from Pleurisy) appeared to be in good health.

Boats Warwick and Limerick registered at Gloucester, Nos. 254 and 236, were found in March to be in poor repair, the owners have written stating the boats are in the dock-yard, and until sold will not again be used.

These are included in the three cases reported in next column as not remedied.

NATURE OF INFRINGEMENTS.

Absence of Certificate	...	..	...	1
Marking ...	...	...	...	1
Overcrowding	...	...	...	1
Separation of sexes	...	...	..	1
Painting ...	...	...	...	6
Dilapidations	...	...	...	2
Total				<hr/> 12 <hr/>
Infringements remedied	...	...	...	9
Number still corresponding about		...	...	3
Number of legal proceedings	...	...	...	0

Remedial measures for contraventions have been obtained by issuing "blue notice" forms.

No case of Infectious Disease has been found on the boats.

Mr. Owen J. Llewellyn, H.M., Chief Inspector under the Canal Boats Acts, examined the Register of Inspections and Complaint Book on April 6th, 1914, and made an enquiry and suggestions as to the administration of the Canal Boats Acts in this Borough.

ARTHUR T. HUBBLE,
Inspector under the Canal Boats Acts,
and Inspector of Nuisances.

January 1st, 1915.

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